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THE LESBIAN AND GAY NEWS MAGAZINE NO. 37 MARCH 11, 1990

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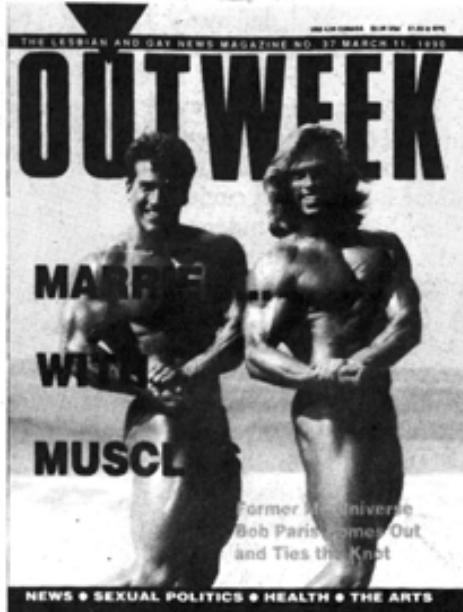
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OUTSPOKEN

Lesbian History Month

March is Women's History Month, a time set aside to reclaim, teach and celebrate the historical role of women. It should also be a time for a certain anger and defiance by women, and particularly lesbians, against their continued invisibility in the discipline of history.

Those who are not personally interested in history are often unaware of the importance of claiming and reclaiming the past. But that cannot be said for men, particularly white men in positions of power and those in the ruling circles of politically dominant countries. They have long understood the significance of staking their claim to the past and putting their own 'spin' on the events that have shaped the world.

Both the dominant sex (male), the dominant race (white) and the dominant sexuality (straight) have always jealously controlled the Western historical discourse. For lesbians this has, as usual, led to a double or even triple invisibility. As women they are routinely ignored by male historians who promote male versions of the past. As lesbians they are also routinely dismissed by gay male historians who write gay history as though this means exclusively gay *male* history. The frequent disclaimer in the opening chapters of such chronicles goes something like this: "The authors would like to have included women in this study, and we do so wherever possible. But the historical record left by lesbians is so scant that here we have to concentrate primarily on gay men." They often then proceed in total disregard of lesbians, fusing the term homosexual with male homosexual in a manner that would make Freudian psychoanalysts beam with approval.

But the excuse of historians who justify their neglect of lesbians because of the thinness of the historical record has been jolted lately by studies such as *Hidden From History*, a major collection of gay historical essays that gives equal time to lesbians and opens up whole new fields of lesbian study. Such books explode the myth that lesbians didn't leave written records, that their stories are forever lost, and that it's hopeless to seek the lesbian past. As similar studies appear, and they will appear, we should become less and less tolerant of those who continue to ignore the lesbian dimension of history.

As is fitting, lesbians are and shall continue to be at the forefront of this act of reclamation. Projects like the Lesbian Herstory Archives, founded, funded and run by women, continue to break new ground in lesbian historical work, recognizing that self-reliance is the best way to effect the necessary changes in historical consciousness.

But male historians should not be let off the hook. As long as many new gay historical works are written by men, those men must be pressured to include examinations of lesbians not as an aside or a footnote, but as an integral part of the mosaic of gay history. ▼

OutWeek

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LETTERS

Master the Possibilities

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the bedroom...

Stuart Edelson's column, "New-Speak and Sexual Politics in the Midst of a Plague" (no. 34, Mar. 4), has, in the words of Addison DeWitt, a point—an idiotic one, but a point nonetheless. The politics of epidemiology having been long established, Mr. Edelson is correct in suggesting that risk-reduction guidelines, no matter how prestigious the citation, can only inform a personal decision regarding the safety of particular sexual acts.

However, when it comes to what I do in my bedroom (or in my local tea-room for

that matter), Mr. Edelson serves me no better than that Senator from North Carolina. While proposing to "open up the definition of what is a man," (syntactic clumsiness his, not mine) he proposes only a narrowing—back to "the classic heterosexual model." His legitimate questions about the accuracy of "official" epidemiological studies do not disguise an unpleasant moralistic agenda not unfamiliar to readers of Hunter and Madsen's *After the Ball*.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has extensively studied the effects of their educational programs on HIV seropositivity rates in their target populations. The most

effective programs have, unsurprisingly, been those that celebrate and affirm sexual possibilities. "Now is the time to fulfill the promise of liberation," Mr. Edelson writes. Let us fulfill that promise by empowering people to make their own decisions, especially about life-and-death issues, rather than by berating them with fear.

Spencer Cox
Manhattan

It's Later Than You Think

Thank you Michelangelo Signorile for ironically denouncing Malcolm Forbes just days before his death ("Gossip Watch," no. 36, Mar. 4). Unable to pull out your criticisms, I was glad to see them included at a time when their meaning is most poignant: "WHAT MALCOLM FORBES CAN DO MOST IS STOP LIVING LIES AT A TIME WHEN TRUTH IS ULTIMATELY THE MOST POWERFUL



WEAPON." Imagine the incredible service he could've provided as a role model for the lesbian and gay community had he done more than contribute monetarily.

My hope is that this loss will elicit confessions from other public figures lessening societal homophobia through familiarity. If that were to happen, Malcolm will have done his greatest service.

Michael Forslund

I Dreamt I Was Michael Musto In My Maidenform...

I was so glad to find Michael Musto in your February 4th (no. 32) issue, with his story "How Not to Get Ahead in Advertising: Madison Avenue Still Has No Place for Queers." I hope we hear more from him in your pages; I think he's one of the funniest—and most politically astute—writers in NYC journalism.

One odd omission in his piece, however: how could

Blurt Out

OVER THE TOP...

It could not have escaped any attentive reader's attention—on the *Daily News'* "Personal Best" advice page, no less. Carol and Julie going at it again. *TV Guide* obviously but scratched the surface on the Burnett-Andrews liaison last winter. Glenn Plaskin of the *News* is mining a deeper and more precious ore: "She's the lady and I'm the comedienne...And," Julie says, taking from her wrist an enamel-bangled bracelet lined with gold, "I treasure this, the most beautiful bracelet I've ever seen. Carol hand-engraved the inside herself—with Love."

BEYOND BELIEF...

Passing right over "The East Side Alien," a bit of vintage *Vanity Fair* "let's find the sickest Crispino-like ponce and vilify him" storymaking, and getting to the heart of the matter is *TV's* Angela Janklow and her blurb on "The Jack Pack." Bad enough that we, brothers and sisters of the lavender nation, must daily stand against the rising tide of homo-hatred and pinheadedness. To then be ceaselessly assaulted by rapturous reports of the energetic thrusting and babymaking of the het world is truly the limit. Get this: "But leave it to Nicholson, nimblest of all Jackrabbits, to top the field: he and 26 year old actress Rebecca Broussard expect their own this spring." Gag me with a rattle.

THE GAPPING ABYSS...

Passing right over the shock-horror of the Sandra Bernhard interview, a veritable case study in cross-wiring and denial, it seems wisest to proceed to the meat of this month's *Interview* — the Rob Lowe close-up. Mr. Lowe's comments are, um, appropriate: "Read between the lines, folks, 'cause I'm here to tell you you're not getting the straight story."

—Sarah Pettit

he miss those blatantly homophobic and sexist ads for Maldenform lingerie? You know, the ones where handsome actors—who have long dodged rumors of being gay—tell us how lingerie “makes a woman truly feminine.” A close-up of Michael York’s square jaw telling us “what he looks for in a woman” (it’s not her brother’s phone number), or Christopher Reeve blushing and cooing about a woman’s “secrets” (and not his own), make me sick to my stomach. I want to reach into my TV set and slap them into the next channel.

Since these ads clearly exist to sell these actors as “true heterosexuals,” as well as sell some bras and panties along the way, I’m wondering if the actors even got paid, considering the career boosts involved. Ah, marketing—the perfect marriage of homophobia and capitalism! What are they really promoting anyway?

Thanks to Mister Musto for telling us not to buy it!

Tom Cunningham
Manhattan

What?

Nah! Say it isn’t so! I’ve got enough difficulties without you unearthing lesbian men. (“Gay Guidelines for Judges” no. 34, Feb. 18, p. 24, lines five and six where it says “protection for lesbian and gay men.”)

Many may view this as an opportunity, not with the deep despair I have. They’ll see endless new varieties of combinations of relationships.

But I, with a rigid (!) sensibility of right and wrong and gay and straight, will look at the man I’m with and wonder what he is—or worse—because I’ve been so insecure from my birth, whether, perhaps, I AM ONE.

And I’ll wonder if that’s what went wrong with the two women down the hall:

maybe one was this newly-discovered kind of invert? Maybe both? Maybe their dog?

Ah! We grow up thinking we have reached some understanding of where we are, and something like this pulls the rug right out from under. There is just no security any more!

Perhaps Bradley Ball will be able to sort me (and the thousands of others who doubtless noticed this upsetting news) out on this. For I am totally unprepared for it.

For mental health,
John Maynard
Manhattan

Waiting for the Robert E. Lee

Eleven years into this epidemic and we are still talking about contact tracing and quarantine.

Eleven years into this epidemic and we have only one F.D.A. approved treatment.

WHEN DO WE ESCALATE?
Lee Arsenault
Port Washington, NY

Kinder Kramer

Are we seeing a kinder, gentler Larry Kramer? (“Kramer vs. . . .” No. 34, Feb. 18) I never thought I would see the day that Larry Kramer would advocate to stop fighting other gay activists whose agenda happened to differ from his. He speaks wisely but to hear it from him GMHC is not the enemy. Tim Sweeney is not the enemy. Even Mario Cuomo cannot be considered the enemy. The way Cuomo stands up to the Catholic patriarchy on the issue of choice shows a politician who does not follow lock-step with a repressive clerical structure. He is an adversary, and a formidable one, but not one to be described in the same breath as Dannemeyer or

Helms. Time is precious. Energy is precious. The great resource that is the anger of ACT UP must be spent wisely, not wasted battling fellow members of the greater community but used to go after those truly culpable.

Marian G. Seggerman
Stamford, CT

P.S. *The New York Native* was quite honored to be named by Senator Helms of North Carolina as mouthpiece of the militant homosexual organization.

Inclusion Confusion

I got a real charge when I first saw the cover story of *OutWeek* two weeks ago (no. 34, Feb. 18). The subject was safer sex among gay men, an issue of extreme importance to me and my family of friends. Here was a subject I could relate to immediately and powerfully. Here was something of vital,

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE





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If not quite daily, relevance to my life. Unlike a good many *OutWeek* articles in which my political horizons are abstractly broadened and my gay cultural awareness remotely sensitized, this article really hit home. I joyously concede the progressively sexier photos of two attractive men well on their way to getting it on gave me a minor thrill and hastened my page-turning.

That's when it hit me. These two were young ("strike one"), white ("strike two") and male ("you're out"). Never mind that with every issue, *OutWeek* clearly makes a good faith effort to practice the politics of inclusion...never mind that articles for and about lesbians and people of color including safer sex appear on a regular basis and seem fairly well-written...never mind that the article in question was not about safer sex in general, but concerned the specific danger that some gay (white?) men are apparently slipping back into the delicious, but deadly, practice of unprotected anal intercourse, I knew that such prominent photos would elicit a condemnatory, knee-

jerk response.

Sure enough, the shit hit the fan in last week's Letters column. "How could *OutWeek* do such a thing?" the response seemed to be. "How could you write one major article without bending over backwards to fulfill your Rainbow Coalition requirements?"

Such an affront! Don't you realize every article must "reach out to" every one of us or we will unleash a blister-

ing torrent of political invective? For the mortal sin of tossing one homogenous bone to the majority of its guilt-ridden readers, I demand the immediate resignation of the entire editorial staff of *OutWeek*.

John Juricek
Manhattan

Jesus, Marry

Tonight an open forum was held at the community center on the issue of whether or not gays and lesbians should be allowed to marry. The gathering was well-attended and a myriad of viewpoints were represented.

One of the more important points to surface was, basically, that people are getting married for other reasons besides love. Paula Ettiebrick, Lambda legal director and panelist, highlighted this point beautifully. In her argument, she talked about the inequality of being married as opposed to not being married. For example, the medical benefits denied someone who chooses to be in a relationship outside of marriage. Wouldn't our energy be better spent focusing on health

care for all, regardless of marital status?

Well, obviously, there's a broad spectrum of issues facing gays and lesbians in the 90s. Certainly we should be fighting for national health care in this country. We should also be fighting to repeal all sodomy laws (as panelist Maxine Wolfe stated). But do we stop there? No, we must keep going until gays and lesbians can immigrate freely, until gays and lesbians are allowed to adopt, and—YES!—until gays and lesbians are allowed to marry.

Many people feel that marriage is an oppressive institution. Fine! Don't marry, but don't step on my rights. As long as heterosexuals are allowed to marry and gays and lesbians are not, there's discrimination. And that's unacceptable.

A final note to Bill Rubenstein (ACLU lawyer and panelist), whose mother told him it was not yet time for homosexual marriages. You might ask your mother when is the right time. For many of us, that time is long overdue.

David Lopez
Manhattan

P.S. It's apparent that nothing will be resolved in the Sweeney/Myers debate. So, please, call the question!

Battle of the Bishops

I was shocked and appalled at the critique of Eric Booth's *Metamorphosis* by Jacque Bishop (no. 33, Feb. 11). No I was not offended by the fact that she panned the play, that is



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her job, to give an unbiased view of the production. Where I find fault is in the last paragraph with the line "I believe that it is important to support works by people of color no matter the quality." "People of color." What does that mean, green, red or blue? Also, that statement undermines her objectivity or so it would seem to me. Does it matter the ethnicity of an author to judge the quality of the work? I hope not, just as it wouldn't matter that the doctor that saves a life is Black, white, Hispanic, etc. or if a criminal is a "person of color." To say that we should support the work of any individual based on their race or religion and not the quality of the work is even more abhorrent. Lest we should punish that criminal I spoke of earlier on his color and not the heinousness of his crime. If this is how Jacque Bishop feels, I just thank god she is reviewing plays and not educating in our schools or running our criminal justice system.

Thomas A. Bishop

I couldn't help but communicate to you my disgust after reading Jacque Bish-

op's thoughtless article, "I Pledge Allegiance..." (no. 35, Feb. 25).

When will the queer nation finally stop perpetuating heterosexist mythologies that our sexuality is a deliberate choice? For most of us, like the color of our skin, homosexuality and lesbianism is our birthright. How, in this time of intense homophobia, could *OutWeek* print Bishop's statement that she "...may (though unlikely) change (her) mind about being a lesbian"?

In effect, you've allowed Bishop to reinforce long-held homophobic beliefs that gay men and lesbians can easily change their same-sex lifestyles. We should all know by now that the straight media just eats that kinda thing right up! Need I redirect you to your own Cooper/Bussee/Exodus article? We already know why that

article hasn't graced the pages of the *New York Post* and the *Enquirer*.

Now more than ever, our gay and lesbian media is carefully scrutinized by a predominantly heterosexual media. Andy Rooney's suspension verifies that. And while we need not scrub our rhetoric for them, we must be vigilant and remember that we are being observed; listened to. What we communicate to straights is vital to our rights and, perhaps, our very existence.

If Jacque Bishop is care-free about her sexuality (and I doubt that she really is but wish to communicate how, taken out of context, her essay could well be read that way), and if she really can be a heterosexual, well then please, go do it today! Why suffer unnecessary homophobia? Isn't the bigotry and sexism enough? But

for the rest of us in the multi-ethnic, multi-racial, multi-denominational queer nation—for those of us who find that we have about as much choice in choosing our sexuality as we do in selecting our biological parents and siblings—well then, let's not communicate to the heterosexual world that we play touch-tag games with our identity. Lest we forget, hundreds of our brothers and sisters die every day as a result of what straights read and perceive as our "carefree" choice to be gay and lesbian.

An *OutWeek* Reader

Jacque Bishop responds:

Mr. Bishop, the ignorance displayed in your letter is frightening. "People of color" is a term used to include all non-white, non-European descendants. This term extends to Asians,

Latinos, Africans and Indians to name a few. In (white) America, people are segregated and judged based on their skin color. Dr. Martin Luther King's dream of having people judged on the content of their character has not been realized by white Americans. As a result we, people of color, use this term to empower ourselves, bridge gaps that exist between ourselves and, in general, create an inclusive environment for our cultural diversity.

A day after I received your letter, the white-controlled media reported that 25 percent of Black males between the ages of 20 and 29 are involved (incarcerated, on parole or on probation) in the criminal justice system. With this knowledge and my experience as an assistant to criminal justice counselors, I



know for a fact that the judicial system is not colorblind. I know that we live in a racist and classist society where criminals are judged in part by their skin color and class backgrounds. Thirdly, because mainstream media venues do not promote positive images of Blacks, we're doing it for ourselves. Thus, the need to support and encourage our artists and their artistic growth. But at the same time, I do expect, as an artist, as a producer and as an audience member, quality work. The ignorance displayed in your letter is not only inexcusable, but dangerous. I hope you get into an anti-racist meeting to understand why.

As to the anonymous reader's letter: 1) I'm out and I'm proud and I'm not afraid to sign my name and print it in public. 2) I do not view my chosen lifestyle casually. While I believe people have orientations, I do believe we choose to or not to live out our "orientations."

Don't Write Twice, It's Alright

In his review of "Set the Woods on Fire" (no. 27, Dec. 24), Jon Nalley misidentified the music used in my segment of the DIVA-TV compilation. Pardon notwithstanding, the piece was titled "A Hard Reign's Gonna Fall" after the Bob Dylan composition from which the

images were conceived.
Dean Lance
DIVA-TV
Manhattan

Tim Sweeney
Pro & Con VI—Aaaaaaah!

Your article "The Myers mess" (no. 31, Jan. 28) might better be called "The Dinkins Mess." After all it is Dave Dinkins who sought the gay and lesbian vote. He made commitments to our community as outlined in your editorial endorsement. After being elected by the narrowest of margins he showed a side of himself we had not seen during the campaign. His stubbornness and arrogance during this whole embroilment and his total lack of concern for the health commissioner's appointment is a serious affront to our community.

Tim Sweeney's vision of compromise has certainly earned him our distrust and his resignation or dismissal by GMHC seems essential.

There is an even more distressing element in this whole mess. Both in ACT UP and the community at large lines are being drawn simply on the fact that Mr. Dinkins and Dr. Myers are Black.

Everyone must be judged on their actions and positions, not on the color of their skin.

Robert Lachance
Port Washington, NY

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Dress You Up In My Homophobia

Ms. Madonna Cucclone
c/o William Morris Agency, Inc.
New York, NY 10019

Dear Ms. Cucclone:

I am writing with regard to the "trailer" that is now being shown in local theaters for your forthcoming film *Dick Tracy*. Our organization has received complaints

men are necessarily effeminate.

At GLAAD we are aware of your support for the rights of lesbians and gay men as well as your admirable efforts in the fight against AIDS. We hope that you will agree that the statement about "pansy things" is unnecessary in the movie and risks reinforcing anti-gay stereotypes. We therefore



from members of the audience who were offended by a young boy's statement to *Dick Tracy* that "(f)or a tough guy like you, you do a lot of pansy things."

Unfortunately, the term "pansy" is still commonly used as a derogatory synonym for a gay man. Thus, for many members of an audience, a statement contrasting "tough guy" and "pansy things" in effect reinforces, although in a subtle way, common myths and prejudices holding that gay

urge you to have this statement deleted before the movie is released.

Thank you very much.
Glenn Gordon
Gay and Lesbian Alliance
Against Defamation, Inc.
Manhattan

Pro-Choice
John J. Kelliher
New York State Public
Service Commission
Albany, NY 12223
Dear Mr. Kelliher

As an AIDS educator, I am writing to you regarding

the impending application of restrictive regulations to telephone sex services in New York State.

Gay Men's Health Crisis is the nation's first and largest AIDS service, education and advocacy organization. We have been educating gay and bisexual men about safer sexual practices since 1983. Our innovative prevention programs, among the first in the world, have saved thousands of lives. According to one researcher, our work has "resulted in the most profound modification of personal health-related behaviors ever recorded."

However, the popular notion that everybody in the gay community already knows everything about AIDS and how to avoid it just is not true. A significant problem in safer sex education is reach-



ing homosexual and bisexual men who may not have acknowledged to themselves or to anyone else their gay identity. They do not take part in activities of the gay community, do not feel comfortable coming to

organizations that have a gay identification and consequently have not yet been reached by safer sex education.

These are people without the knowledge, skills or confidence to negotiate a safer

sexual encounter with another person. For them, telephone sex services allow them to be sexual—safely—without coming out of the closet.

As you may know, by the end of 1989 in New York City alone more than 12,000 gay and bisexual men had been diagnosed with AIDS. In the middle of an epidemic, it is critical to retain every tool we have to fight transmission. Telephone sex is one such tool. We can prevent more loss of life. I strongly urge you not to undermine the efforts of those of us who are trying to save lives. Any pressure you may be under to restrict or eliminate telephone sex services surely must be outweighed by the demands placed on all of us to fight this epidemic.

Jeffrey Bratt
Executive Director
Gay Men's Health Crisis

resistance



Gay Man to Lead Human Rights Commission

by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK — Noting that in the flurry of activity before his appointment, he did not find the opportunity to state publicly that he is especially pleased to accept his new position because he is a gay man, New York's recently appointed Human Rights Commissioner Dennis DeLeon told *OutWeek* last week, "People who I make contact with should be clear about who they're dealing with."

"People should view the commission — will more easily view the commission — as a place where they can come with sexual orientation [discrimination] complaints," DeLeon remarked in a telephone interview, adding that he sees his appointment as significant symbolically because of the Human Rights Commission's leading role in resolving discrimination issues that deeply concern the gay and AIDS-affected communities.

Given that the Human Rights Commission's mandate encompasses two distinct areas — to adjudicate complaints and to promote intergroup relations — in which DeLeon, who, as a gay man, a Latino and an attorney, is uniquely qualified to perform, he said, "I certainly hope [that my appointment] will enhance the commission's ability to promote relations between the gay communities and other communities in New York City."

Where He's Been

Explaining that his Latino identity has also played a large role in shaping his civil-rights perspective, DeLeon emphasizes that in his new position, which he will assume March 12, he hopes to play a key role in building mutual respect and cooperation between the Latino and gay communities. Although he admits that he has not been active in any of the several gay Latino organizations in New York, he is currently on the board of directors of the Puerto Rican bar association, and he remains active in a number of other Latino organizations.

DeLeon's appointment follows closely on the heels of Mayor David Dinkin's selection of another openly gay man, Dr. Billy E. Jones, as Commissioner of Mental Health, and soothes discontent among some members of New York's Latino community who were angered when Jones, who is Black, was chosen over a Latino candidate for the position. Jones and DeLeon are, respectively, the first and second openly-gay people appointed to commissioner-level jobs in New York City's history.

Throughout his career, both in New York and in his home state, California, De Leon has fought for social change through civil-rights litigation. He was a founding member of Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, the San Francisco area gay bar association, and he

worked as regional counsel for California Rural Legal Assistance. As senior assistant corporation counsel for New York City, DeLeon successfully brought suit against a number of private clubs in New York because they excluded women, and he was involved in a suit against the Catholic Archdiocese and the Salvation Army for discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Most recently, as deputy borough president under Dinkins, DeLeon won praise from AIDS activists for his advocacy before the Board of Estimate, particularly on housing issues for people with AIDS.

DeLeon's lover of 12 years, Bruce Kiernan, shares his commitment to social change through advancement of civil and human rights issues. Kiernan, who



NO SECRETS — NYC Human Rights Commissioner Dennis DeLeon

Photo: T.L. Litt

currently directs development at Union Theological Seminary, has a background in international human rights.

Where He's Going

Talking about the direction in which he wants to move the Human Rights Commission, which is currently swamped with over 600 unassigned investigations, DeLeon outlines two major areas for improvement within the commission's mandate.

"I think this commission has to be available as an institution to deal with some of the major intergroup problems people are facing in this city," DeLeon stated, explaining that he hopes to develop a mediation program within the commission that will allow the commission to resolve disputes before they reach the level of complaints.

To that end DeLeon could very well have his hands full. Just last year, the AIDS Discrimination Division of the Human Rights Commission nearly tore itself apart over tensions between gay and lesbian staffers and employees from communities of color. The director of the unit and deputy director were fired and then reinstated before the months-long debacle was finally put to rest.

Katy Taylor, the deputy director involved, called DeLeon's appointment "a good choice," and mentioned that she would be particularly comfortable working with him because they have worked together in the past. Taylor said DeLeon was instrumental in securing the original municipal funding for the division she now heads, and said that from her standpoint, the hiring of a commissioner knowledgeable about AIDS was "a thrill."

AIDS Discrimination Director Keith O'Connor concurred. "He's the perfect person," he told *OutWeek*. "And he's a known. With him we won't have to reinvent the wheel."

DeLeon also hopes to secure a major change in the law governing the powers of the Human Rights Commission during his tenure. Right now, the commission can collect attorney's fees and can level penalties for compensatory damages only, obviously limiting the disincentive effect of the city's anti-discrimination law. However, legislation has been introduced to the city council that will empower the commission to collect punitive damages as well, and

See GAY COMMISSIONER on page 55

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Black Gay Summit Draws Hundreds

New Church Founded; Honors Awarded

by Jim Marks

ATLANTA—Church came to Atlanta's Hyatt Regency Hotel Sunday February 18. The 30-voice, gay Lavendar Light Gospel Choir, resplendent in white robes and orange kinteh cloth sashes, performed a jubilant rendition of "There is

no failure in God." Then, the Rev. Renee McCoy from Detroit, Michigan, preached. "I've always thought Ezekiel was the prophet of the gay community," she said. "Ezekiel was a flaming faggot, a crazy guy who had visions and talked back to God. But God always told ole

Zeke to go back and minister to his brothers and sisters in exile."

For the 200 laughing, praying, singing participants, the morning's service was powerful affirmation of their determination not to be exiled from their communities. For Black gays

Creating Our Future



PRESENT LEADERS, FUTURE AGENDA Photo: Jim Marks
Sandra Lowe and Sabrina Sojourner at the leadership workshop

by Jacquie Bishop

ATLANTA—I went down to the National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference as a technical assistant to the Lavender Light Gospel Choir. Prior to leaving New York City, rumors were bountiful.

A friend told me she heard that the cops were eagerly waiting for the queers to arrive. Supposedly, the police were still steaming after a recent ACT UP kiss-in, and they wanted to regain control of their city from the queers.

But once we got to Atlanta, all we found was the "New South": calmness, gentility, hospitality and some good food (with the exception of the International House of Pancakes, which is a bad restaurant no matter where you are). An unbelievable sense of pride and empowerment prevailed. A member of our host organization met us at the hotel with a "Welcome to Atlanta" banner.

During the weekend there were banquets, an African-centric fashion show and a dance at Traxx, where one self-identified queen did some horrific raps about the butchness of his prick, fucking priests and cross-dressing. Before the women could do him any physical harm, some men who were highly offended by his "art" got him off the stage.

Assotto Sainte, dressed in full butch leather drag, received the James Baldwin award for his artistic genius, and AIDS educator and poet Craig G. Harris, who had no less than 14 wardrobe changes, received the Fred Garnett award for his community AIDS work.

But the highlight of the weekend was a leadership development workshop, led by some of the most progressive activists in country: Atlanta's Sabrina Sojourner; New York activist and artist George Bellinger, Jr.; Sandra Lowe, an attorney with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund; former Black and White Men Together/D.C. co-chair Christopher Bates, L.A., activist Debra Johnson and San Francisco politico Brandy Moore.

The six facilitators and 35 or so attendees set out to tackle the question "what makes a good leader".

We discussed the importance of people taking on leadership roles. We discussed the importance of being represented and the importance of being out. And throughout the weekend, it became apparent that the problems the gay Black community faces in this country are plentiful.

In Houston, a white man owns and operates the only Black gay male bar. The "master" does not want safer sex materials (including condoms) distributed on the premises, which include a back room for sex. Once we got past our outrage, we discussed means in which activists can reach the Black men who are putting themselves at risk for AIDS.

News Commentary

See FUTURE on page 32



GOING HOME, COMING OUT—Rev. Renée McCoy

Photo: Jim Marks

nationally, the service marked the beginnings of a new Black gay religious organization, headed by McCoy and the Rev. Carl Beam of Los Angeles, called the Unity Fellowship Church.

The worship service was part of the third annual National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference, Feb. 16-19, which drew over 450 Black gay men and lesbians from around the country. In addition to the formation of Unity Fellowship Church, other conference-related developments included announcement of plans to form a Black gay political action committee (PAC), and the creation of an ongoing leadership development program.

According to Brandy Moore, an aide to California State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, the as yet unnamed Black gay PAC plans to raise \$20,000 in the next six months. The first race it has targeted is the Washington, D.C. City Council candidacy of Jim Harvey.

The conference also featured a high-spirited, sexy fashion show, a display of work by Black gay and lesbian artists from around the country, a literary evening and the East Coast premier of Marlon Riggs' Black gay documentary, *Tongues Untied*. A daylong health institute focusing primarily on AIDS and women's health preceded the conference.

The conference marked a major step in the Black gay community's recent development. The 1980s witnessed an explosion of local African-American gay organizations. A network

of Black gay men's groups has sprung up in cities such as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Oakland, California. There is a national Black gay news publication, the Los Angeles based *BLK* Representatives of the flourishing African American gay literary scene flocked to Atlanta, most notably Barbara Smith of Kitchen Table Women of Color Press, the conference's keynote speaker, and many members of New York's Other Countries writers workshop.

Other conference participants included minority AIDS projects, religious organizations and even a University of Michigan Black gay student group. The three awards handed out at the conference banquet all went to women—New York's Candice Boyce, Atlanta's Sabrina Sojourner and Rev. McCoy—a indication of the prominent role women play in the movement.

The conference was produced by the Los Angeles-based Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, begun by activist Phill Wilson. With an annual budget of \$180,000, \$100,000 of which goes into the conference, the BGLF is itself one of the nation's most substantial Black gay groups. According to *BLK* publisher Alan Bell, the conference significantly increased its national representation by holding the event in Atlanta, its first move outside Los Angeles.

While unity and fellowship were the prevailing spirits, there was considerable diversity among participants. On the political spectrum, keynote speaker

See **SUMMIT** on page 56

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High Court Declines to Hear Gay Military Cases

by Cliff O'Neill and John Zeh

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court on Feb. 26, declined to hear two cases challenging the military's standing policy of excluding lesbians and gay men from the service, handing down a major setback for lesbian and gay military activists.



LOVES WOMEN, LOVES AMERICA

Sgt. Miriam Ben-Shalom Photo: Tracy Bain/Outlines

Without comment, the tribunal refused to consider an appeal by Miriam Ben-Shalom, a lesbian sergeant refused reenlistment in the Army Reserve. And it declined to decide a plea by James M. Woodward, a Naval officer booted out after being honest about his sexual orientation.

The decision to forego review is not a ruling on the military's policy per se. But it is seen as a sign that the high

court will not grant gays and lesbians legal protection under constitutional guarantee of free speech and equal protection or treatment.

The court has "historically been reluctant to take gay-related cases," said Evan Wolfson, an attorney with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. "They're not going to reach out and take the opportunity to protect gay people's rights to protect their own rights, even though they've never ruled on the equal protection or First Amendment issues with regard to gays."

Gay and lesbian activists also worry about implications of this latest move on discrimination in civilian life, although some see the decision as a mixed blessing.

"Although many homosexuals have no interest in joining the military," argued Patrick T. Berigan, Ben-Shalom's attorney "all have an interest in making sure that the federal government does not, in any of its agencies, condone discrimination which does not rationally relate to any legitimate interest."

The refusal-to-review prompted mixed reaction from Lambda staff attorney Sandra Lowe, who represents former Midshipman Joe Steffan in a suit against his expulsion by the U.S. Naval Academy. "One was relief," she said. "This is the *Hardwick* court," which ruled in 1986 that homosexual conduct is not protected by the constitution's privacy provision.

"But my initial reaction was, 'they can run, but they can't hide.' These cases do arise. We're going to bring

them and sooner or later they're going to have to look at the issue," she said.

The court's action brings to an end Ben-Shalom's 16-year battle with the Army to remain in the service in which she won virtually every phase of her struggle.

Although, as of Feb. 28, she had not yet received her discharge, she expects that it may be coming soon.

"I suppose the only appropriate words [I can say] are: I feel devastated," said Ben-Shalom. "I feel outrage. I feel angry. Would you understand if I said, 'What in the name of God do I need to do to be a citizen of this country and be fit to serve her? To have the same responsibilities and privileges as any other citizen?'"

In the *Ben Shalom* case, Berrigan argued that the Army violated Ben-Shalom's First Amendment right to free speech and her constitutional protections under the Equal Protection Clause by penalizing her for her statement that she was a lesbian.

After winning repeated rounds in her case, Ben-Shalom was set back by a Chicago appeals court which declared that by identifying herself as a lesbian, she declared herself as prone to "criminal" behavior, and that evidence of same sex sexual behavior was not needed to deny her reenlistment.

The Bush Administration had earlier filed a brief with the court supporting the military's position. In it, Solicitor General Kenneth W. Starr said that, as the military has been allowed to ban same-sex sexual contact, "it is implausible to say that those with a proclivity to commit such acts constitute a group that deserves special protection under the Equal Protection Clause."

The other case centered around James M. Woodward, a Naval Flight Officer candidate who was denied enlistment in 1972 when he checked

"yes" when asked if he has same-sex attractions, but denied having acted upon them.

While lesbian and gay military activists have been extremely disappointed by the Supreme Court's refusal to hear the two cases, they are hoping that, should the court likewise decline to hear other cases challenging the military policy, they will seek to have it changed by other means.

"It's extremely disappointing that the high court had declined to hear these cases," stated Robert Bray, public information director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "But this issue is not closed and we plan on pressing the Congress to force the Pentagon to change their deeply irrational policy."

As for Ben-Shalom, she is uncertain about the future and is hoping that at some point discharged lesbians and gay men could bring a class action suit against the Pentagon to force them to explain why they feel homosexuals are not fit for military service.

"I think that gays are in a very interesting position right now," she said. "We currently have second-class status. We have joined the ranks of individuals called convicted felons who are also barred from serving their country, even though in my case I was convicted of nothing other than telling the truth."

As for herself, Ben-Shalom is waiting for her impending discharge, and is hoping it will not be a bad one, which would affect her civilian employment.

"I love America and America has never let me down," she said. "I still believe in America, but boy this is hard.... I guess I just have to pick up the pieces and go on."

A recent *Newsweek* study showed that 60 percent of civilians polled believe gay men and lesbians should be allowed to serve, according to Lambda's Lowe, who also praised recent efforts by campus activists at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and elsewhere, to confront ROTC's anti-gay bias.

And her client Joseph Steffan's suit has led to revelations, championed by openly-gay Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.), of the existence of a Department of Defense-commissioned report supporting the enlistment of gay men and lesbians. ▼

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Rising AIDS Caseloads and the NY State Budget: When More Money is Still Not Enough



KILLING ME SOFTLY?—ACT UP goes down on the State Capitol

by James Waller

NEW YORK—Even in a year of drastic budget slashing, a 28 percent increase in state AIDS funding won't be enough to keep many needed services alive, according to AIDS care workers around the state. Advocates say they face huge service cutbacks because of the ever-rising caseloads of people living with AIDS.

Community service providers (CSPs) and related AIDS service and advocacy organizations throughout New York State are finding themselves fighting an uphill battle for what they see as bottom-line necessary increases in AIDS-related spending by the state during the coming fiscal year.

Despite an increase of more than \$60 million for AIDS-related expenditures in the draft budget prepared by Governor Mario Cuomo and submitted to the state legislature in January, the total monies allotted for AIDS-related services represent a significant shortfall when compared with need.

According to Tim Sweeney, deputy

executive director for policy of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, well over half of the more than \$266 million allotted for AIDS in the governor's draft budget for 1990-91 will automatically go into mandated programs such as Medicaid payments

NEWS FOCUS

than medical services in the Rochester area, we're basically the only ones providing

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AIDS, Church and State When a House is Not a Home

by James Waller

NEW YORK—Despite questions and objections raised by more than 30 AIDS service organizations and advocacy groups, the New York State Public Health Council (PHC) on February 23 granted tentative approval to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York City's application for state financ-

ing for two health-related facilities (HRFs) for the long-term care and housing of HIV-ill people.

The archdiocesan facilities are to be constructed at locations on Tompkins Square Park and on East 99th Street near Second Avenue, on city-owned land that will be sold to the archdiocese for this purpose. The facil-

ties, if built, will house 200 PWAs whose health is good enough that they do not require hospitalization.

Before final approval can be given to the facilities, which will be operated by the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Center, church officials must by May 1 negotiate a "memorandum of understanding" with the state-run AIDS Institute. If agreement is reached, that memorandum will provide guarantees that the archdiocesan agency will operate the new facilities in accord with state-mandated regulations, rather than Catholic doctrine.

The city's sale of its properties to the archdiocese, which was approved by the Board of Estimate last year, must also be finalized before construction of the HRFs can commence.

The Cooke Health Center's application has received vocal opposition from a wide range of AIDS advocacy, women's, family planning, health workers' and civil liberties groups. Some, while not opposed in principle to the archdiocese's desire to provide housing and medical services to HIV-ill people, insist that strict guarantees to provide safer-sex education, drug treatment, gynecological and other services must be built into the church-state contract.

Beyond doubting the archdiocese's good faith if it agrees to provide on-site condom distribution, abortion and birth-control counseling and other services that run counter to Catholic doctrine, opponents have raised questions concerning the independence of the board that will administer the facilities. According to several sources, the board proposed by the Cooke Center is composed of individuals closely linked to the archdiocese or to archdiocese-run medical facilities and is overwhelmingly white and male.

Objections to the design of the proposed facilities have also been voiced. Reportedly, these designs specify semi-private rooms, toilets to be shared among four people, and shower rooms that are located away from bedrooms but near common facilities such as dining halls.

Some groups, such as ACT UP/New York, remain adamantly opposed to the state's financing any Catholic-run HRF or other medical or housing facility for people with AIDS. Eric Sawyer, a spokesperson for ACT UP's housing committee, told *OutWeek*

that the members of his committee feel that the archdiocese is incapable of delivering nonjudgmental care to PWAs.

Many of those who during the past year have been involved in fighting the archdiocese's application complain that both the church and the PHC have been unresponsive to their requests to be included in the decision-making process.

Robert Peterson, of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, told *OutWeek* that the PHC has ignored community appeals to delay approval of the Cardinal Cooke facilities. GMHC's repeated requests for clarification on the archdiocese's willingness to provide state-mandated services have never received direct response, Peterson said.

"The PHC's approval provides the illusion of community support," he said, "whereas in reality the Catholic Church facilities appear to have been granted an exemption from following New York State public health policy." Peterson said that the Public Health Commissioner has tended to use the state's AIDS Institute as a clearinghouse for objections raised by community-based AIDS service providers.

Peterson also told *OutWeek* that 14 other potential HRF providers currently have applications pending before the PHC. A source experienced in the approvals process told *OutWeek* that archdiocesan proposals were among the first to receive the PHC's okay because "the church was smart enough to see AIDS-related HRFs as a cash crop long before anyone else did."

ACT UP's Sawyer charged that "the archdiocese is attempting to get a monopoly on AIDS housing in New York State." He said that ACT UP had received no response to communications urging the archdiocese to include PWAs and AIDS advocates on the proposed facilities' governing board.

Sawyer said that his committee has learned that in the agreement governing the city's sale of its East Village and East Side properties to the archdiocese, the city will only require that the archdiocese dedicate the new facilities to the care and housing of HIV-ill people for seven years. Usually, Sawyer said, such bills of sale require a 30-year dedicated use.

The Archdiocese of New York currently has another application pending for state financing of a proposed 66-bed health-related facilities on Manhattan's Upper West Side. ▼

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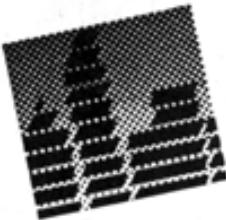
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News

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those services."

She said her group expects it will have to slash the number of prevention education materials it can purchase and distribute if the governor's budget is approved. AIDS Rochester's caseload, which stands at nearly 400, has risen by more than 30 percent in

cant increases.

Ronald Johnson, director of the Minority Task Force on AIDS, said that unless allotments rise above the levels suggested in the draft budget, his organization will be forced to turn clients away or cut back on the level of services offered. Johnson's organization, which receives about 80 percent of its operating budget from government sources, has registered a 50 percent increase in its caseload over the past year.

So far, Johnson says, staffing increases have kept pace with the rise in the number of the task force's clients. But, he says, "we are already at that point where the level of staff is reaching its saturation point."

He also said that the proposed budget would effectively cancel the chances of any start-up community-based organization being able to begin operation—a dire prediction for communities of color, where the impact of the epidemic is being felt ever more severely.

Such bleak prospects were reiterated by Ron Silverio, who directs AIDS Community Services of Western

New York, a Buffalo-based CSP that serves an eight-county region. Compared to New York City levels, caseloads in the western part of the state are light. Still, says Silverio, his organization has seen a 100 percent jump in the number of people seeking services in the past eight months.

"We've grown tremendously in the past year," said Silverio, "but if the state budget stays flat in terms of CSPs, we feel it would be tragic to potential clients." He said that the Buffalo area is beginning to see dramatic increases in seropositivity among African-American



HAVE YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT, TOO.

"Mario Antionette" in Albany Photo: Tom McKittrick/Impact Visuals

the past year.

Another CSP, the AIDS Center of Queens County, has already begun cutting back on the services it now offers to more than 700 clients. According to its director, Gary Maffei, ACQC will be forced to discontinue completely the counseling and other services it provides to the family members and friends whose lives are also devastated when a loved one gets sick.

And programs serving communities of color, women and adolescents are likely to be hardest hit by the new budget if it is approved without signifi-

News

cans and Latinos, and he accused the state of being lax in its effort to provide prevention services to adolescents at risk for HIV infection.

"We're going to pay and pay dearly with our youth," he said.

AIDS Workers Lobby Albany

On February 6, about 175 AIDS service workers from New York City and elsewhere traveled to Albany, meeting with more than 90 state legislators in a massive lobbying effort that represented the first engagement in a campaign that will extend through the end of March, when state senators and assemblypersons are required to approve the state budget for the coming fiscal year.

That event was organized by the New York AIDS Coalition (NYAC), an umbrella organization representing a large number of AIDS service organizations, both private and public. Lobbyists presented legislators with a "moral benchmark" funding agenda, drawn up by NYAC, that requests an increase of \$270 million in state AIDS spending over the next fiscal year.

That is the amount activists say is necessary to effectively meet the crisis spawned by the epidemic. Realizing, however, that such a proposal might seem fiscally outlandish in a year when many state social-service programs face budget cuts, NYAC pared down its demand to a "survival budget" that asks for nearly \$20 million more than the amount proposed by Governor Cuomo.

The "survival budget," also given to legislators, provides an extremely detailed funding agenda that its compilers hope will be followed if the legislature does decide to add money to the governor's AIDS allotment. The survival budget's demands include \$10 million in additional funds for CSPs and community-based organizations.

Let them Eat Cake

The February 6 NYAC action was followed, the next week, by a demonstration at the State Capitol organized by ACT UP/NY, in concert with ACT UP chapters from all over the state. Disruptive actions performed by the group of about 150 demonstrators

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"You're going to a stranger for something deeply personal." Artificial Insemination: Behind the Scenes

Fighting Invisibility is a series of occasional articles on subjects not often discussed in relation to the lesbian community. This is the fifth article in that series.

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Artificial insemination (AI) has become almost commonplace among lesbian couples under 45 who want to have children together. But although a fair amount of press—gay and lesbian as well as mainstream—has been given over to the subject, that coverage has focused mainly on the trend itself and the resultant family. The stories have been about how the mothers cope, how outsiders deal with lesbian families and how children cope with the two-mother/no-father families, rather than about the process itself.

I interviewed a lesbian couple who are going through the AI process. They are fairly typical of lesbian AI couples. Margaret is 34 and her lover, Laura, is 41. Both are white, with good incomes. They own their small house which is situated in a neighborhood full of young children. They have been going through the AI process for nearly a year. They agreed to tell the story of their experience with AI in the hope that it would help other women realize the implications of the decision and the various factors that need to be considered.

Many jokes are leveled about "turkey baster" babies. But in the era of AIDS and other frightening and life-threatening sexually transmitted and genetically defined diseases, the AI process couldn't be a more scientific and complex one.

Margaret (the names here have been changed to protect the women's jobs; both are teachers) comes from a large Midwestern family. She has always "assumed" she would have children but the talk of doing so began about six years ago. She and Laura have been together ten years and have lived together for eight. "I knew I wanted a child—I knew we wanted a child. We sort of settled on my being 31 or 32 when we would initiate the process and that's about what happened. We'd already bought the house and settled into it. Our jobs were very secure. I went to my supervisor and discussed the effect that being a pregnant single mother might have on my students and, to my surprise, she was very support-

ive. I told her I would be needing time off for the AI stuff and she was just supportive all the way."

There was never a question which member of the couple would be the birth mother. "Laura jokes about being the child's father," said Margaret, "but the child will have two mothers."

The medical process began. Margaret and Laura were "interviewed" by the team of doctors who would work with them at a local hospital known for its work in fertility problems and artificial insemination. It is one of the best programs in the country and had been used by a couple

Margaret was quite close to.

The initial consultation and testing cost close to \$500. The doctors explained the variety of issues involved and talked with both women. Margaret said the doctors, men, were "extremely respectful of our relationship" and that the

FIGHTING INVISIBILITY



Illustration by Kris Kovick

News

women have never encountered any discrimination for their lesbianism.

One of the first decisions the women had to make had to do with donors. They chose anonymous based on a variety of problems that can occur with a known donor. "Basically," said Margaret, "there is simply no involvement or claim an anonymous donor can have on your child. And his family can't have claims either. Although we didn't personally know of any problems with known donors, we had read a lot of horror stories. If you have a known donor you are obligated legally to allow that child to be visited by not just the donor, but by his parents. If those parents decide you aren't a fit mother because you're a lesbian, they could sue for custody. And if you have a falling out or other problems with the donor, he can sue for custody too. We just felt the potential for problems was too great."

The other issue with donors is whether to use fresh or frozen sperm. Margaret explained that fresh sperm, though more expensive and potentially slightly more dangerous in terms of transmittable diseases, is much more likely to get a woman pregnant. "The sperm in the frozen state are much more slow-moving—they aren't as motile and they aren't as likely to get you pregnant." And since the cost of each insemination is \$225 to \$300 depending on where the woman is having the procedure done, and since there must be at least two inseminations a month, the costs can run

quite high, making fresh sperm a more economical choice.

Margaret and Laura's team uses sperm from donors who are screened every four months for everything from HIV to hepatitis, as well as genetic diseases. The women feel they are as safe as they can be with the AI process.

But pregnancy doesn't always occur immediately. After six months of insemination without success, Margaret's doctors suggested further tests for fertility. She went through a laparoscopy, which examines the Fallopian tubes for blockage or other damage. An estimated 50 percent of women over the age of 30 have at least one blocked tube. Since ovulation is dependent on the egg getting through the tube to the uterus to be fertilized, blocked tubes are nearly always the reason for infertility.

Margaret was told she had one blocked tube and another filled with scar tissue. This was removed and she was then able to ovulate normally. To facilitate the ovulation she was put on a fertility drug, Clomid, and had further testing. She then found that her cervical mucus was fighting the sperm and that too was interfering with her chances of pregnancy. She then began intra-uterine inseminations (which are more complex and more expensive than regular AI). After three months of intra-uterine AI and the drug, Margaret became pregnant.

"There are so many things I would tell women who are going to embark on this process," she said. "First of all, you

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really have to want to have a child because it really becomes a consuming issue—you can't *not* think about it. First you have to take your temperature every day at the same time when you get up so you can determine when you're ovulating so that you can be inseminated at that time. Then you are always going for something. I felt that I was always waiting for the insemination or waiting for my period and then waiting for the insemination again. Then if you are on the drugs you're taking those five days a month so that's something else to remind you of the process. And then the people who know are always asking you about it so it really does take up a huge piece of your emotional self. It's almost like it has to be an obsession for you to get through it."

Margaret also warns that the process is time-consuming. Women need to take time off from work for the inseminations which must be done first thing in the morning with fresh sperm. The intra-uterine is even more time consuming since it requires first an ultrasound then a return trip for insemination. Laura went with Margaret for one of the two inseminations each month.

The other consideration is the expense. The inseminations cost over \$500 a month and the drug is \$50. In addition there are various tests that need to be made, especially if the woman is not pregnant by the sixth month of insemination. Only about half of all women who are undergoing AI get pregnant in their first six months of AI; about seven percent more will get pregnant in the second six months. Others have more difficulty. A certain percentage turn out to be infertile.

Margaret's insurance pays for most of her insemination fees, but it took her several months to understand the process for applying for the reimbursements. And not all states are supportive of AI, and therefore only certain insurance plans cover any of the costs.

As for what women should do to prepare for AI, Margaret and Laura recommend the following. "Read. Read as many books and articles as you can about mothering, about

AI and about lesbian parenting. Talk to other women who have gone through the procedure and talk to as many mothers—lesbian and heterosexual—as you can. This is a highly emotional thing, and you're on an emotional roller-coaster much of the time waiting to get pregnant. There are all sorts of stresses involved and that is bound to effect your relationship. When Laura and I decided to have a baby we also had to sit down and redefine our relationship in terms that—what we wanted, what we didn't want. Your relationship has to be strong and settled to withstand having a child with no problems. AI is problematic—it isn't easy and so I would say women really have to know what their bond is before they start to do it."

Laura was also concerned about her role in the parenting and her feelings of ambivalence. Talking to other non-birth mothers was helpful for her but she said she really didn't know how she felt until Margaret was actually pregnant. Both women emphasize that support is essential.

Laura and Margaret have worked out the parenting of the child both legally and personally. Both say it is essential that legal documents are drawn up regarding guardianship and the role

of the non-birth mother before the child is born. The interests of the child and both mothers need to be addressed. This is especially important to protect the child from custody battles and keep such issues with extended family from arising.

Knowing the process and having good references for doctors is another essential, they agree. "You're going to a stranger for something deeply personal," said Margaret. "You have to feel safe with that person and sure that everything is being done to ensure a safe and healthy pregnancy. Be assertive, ask questions, know what you need ahead of time and remember that when you're working with a team of doctors they don't always know what the other ones have said or done. This is your child and you are paying a lot of money and putting in a lot of emotional and physical time and energy. You need to be sure your needs are met." ▼



Illustration by Kris Kovick

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Reward paid in S.I. murder capture

NEW YORK—A \$5,000 reward posted by the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project will be paid on Tuesday, March 6, to an informant who cooperated with the police and facilitated the capture of Philip Sarlo, accused in the January 22 anti-gay murder of James Zappalorti.

"We are pleased that our reward helped lead to Sarlo's arrest," said Matt Foreman, the project's director. "We're not pleased that we had to post a reward in the first place, however. The city's failure to act forced us to do so, and we're not sorry."

The Anti-Violence Project posted a reward on February 8, after the mayor's office failed to respond to repeated requests for the posting of a reward. The mayor announced the posting of a city reward of \$10,000 during his appearance at the Community Center on February 22.

The municipal reward will only be paid if the information leading to Sarlo's arrest results in a conviction, according to police officer Joseph Gallagher in the public information office at the Police Department.

According to Foreman, police sources say that numbers of persons began calling with information when the reward was posted.

Sarlo, 26, was arrested on February 18 in Ocala, Florida, while he talked from a pay telephone with a police department detective in New York. The detective was able to reach Sarlo through the informant, and the call was placed from the informant's house. Both the police and AVP have declined to reveal the identity of the informant.

Sarlo waived an extradition hearing and was returned to New York on February 23 and was arraigned on February 26. Bail was set at \$500,000.

The other man charged in the murder, Michael Taylor, was arrested on January 23, shortly after Zappalorti's

body was discovered. The Staten Island District Attorney's Office has previously indicated that Taylor was the principle wielder of the knife used in the murder. Zappalorti was stabbed four times and his throat slashed.

At his arraignment, Sarlo was also charged with second degree murder. Taylor was previously indicted for second degree murder for stabbing and killing Zappalorti. Both men were indicted on 12 other counts, including robbery grand larceny, burglary and possession of stolen property.

Foreman has also made a formal request for a special prosecutor in the case, citing Staten Island District Attorney William Murphy's indifference to past bias cases. Gov. Mario Cuomo has not made a decision on the request.

Second degree murder carries a minimum sentence of 15 years, and a maximum sentence of 25 years. Both defendants have prior convictions for an anti-gay attack in 1986. If convicted in the Zappalorti case, Sarlo's prior conviction could be used to extend his sentence considerably. Taylor was previously convicted as a youthful offender and his prior conviction cannot be used against him.

Kentucky gay-bash turtle attack

A white man who tried to murder a Black man he believed was gay by beating him with a bumper jack, locking him in a car trunk with a live snapping turtle, and then attempting to burn the car, was sentenced to 50 years in prison Feb. 16 by a Taylor County, Kentucky jury in Campbellsville. A second suspect charged in the attack is undergoing psychiatric evaluation and has not stood trial.

The victim, Kirk Nash, 21, was assaulted Sept. 14 in rural Campbellsville by Rex Melton, 23, and allegedly by Ricky Johnson, 19, who has not yet stood trial. Nash and Johnson were lifelong friends and Nash

was acquainted with Melton.

According to trial testimony, Melton and Johnson turned on Nash after he made sexual advances toward them while they were riding around in Nash's car drinking.

Key witness Robert Cox, a close friend of Melton, told the jury that Melton and Johnson told him "they had gotten into it and hit (Nash) with a bumper jack. One of them said the boy was queer and tried to get a hold of them. They said that he had tried to suck one of them...They said they were going to burn the car and had taken the car down Clark Road and drove it off in a holler," Cox said.

Cox reported Melton and Johnson's story to police the evening of the attack and police located the car some 24 hours later in a wooded area on an abandoned logging road.

In trial testimony, state trooper David Grant said he found Nash locked in the trunk with severe lacerations about the head and with his head resting on a large snapping turtle. There was a strong odor of gasoline and charred paper on the trunk lid.

Dr. Eugene Shively, who treated Nash at Taylor County Hospital, told the jury that Nash had been severely beaten and had multiple lacerations to the head. "Brain was coming out the lacerations to the forehead," he said.

Although it did not come out during the trial, sources say Nash had also been raped with a crow bar or stick, and attacked by the snapping turtle. The American snapping turtle, *Caretta caretta*, will eat human flesh.

Nash survived the attack but is described as a "vegetable" and will be institutionalized for the rest of his life.

The verdict against Melton was for first degree assault, for which he will serve 20 years, and first degree arson, for which he will serve 30 years. The sentence will run consecutively. A charge of attempted murder was dropped after it was learned that Nash would not die.

A psychologist testified during the trial that Johnson has a "borderline personality disorder" and is subject to explosive behavior. Sources say Johnson has received social security payments for a "mental disorder" for nine

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Out Takes

years and will likely never stand trial.

Racism is believed to have been a factor in the attack as Melton bragged to Cox that he had "knocked a nigger in the head," according to trial testimony.

—Rex Wockner

Stan McKinney, news editor of The Central Kentucky News-Journal, contributed to this report.

Europeans joining boycott of U.S. AIDS talks

Meeting in Copenhagen Feb. 17-18, delegates to the First European Conference on HIV and Homosexuality signed

onto the growing boycott of the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, to be held June 20-24 in San Francisco.

The 200 delegates join numerous AIDS service organizations, scientists and governmental health officials from Europe, Canada, Australia and the U.S. in refusing to attend the gathering.

They all object to U.S. immigration rules that require HIV-positive foreigners to receive an "HIV waiver" before entering the country.

In a resolution, the Copenhagen group "demand[ed] the abolition of travel restrictions based on HIV-antibody status throughout the world and in particular the USA, which should honor its own commitments to the 1988 International Health Minister's Charter and the recommendations of the World Health Organization."

All of the delegates represented member groups of the European Council of AIDS Organizations.

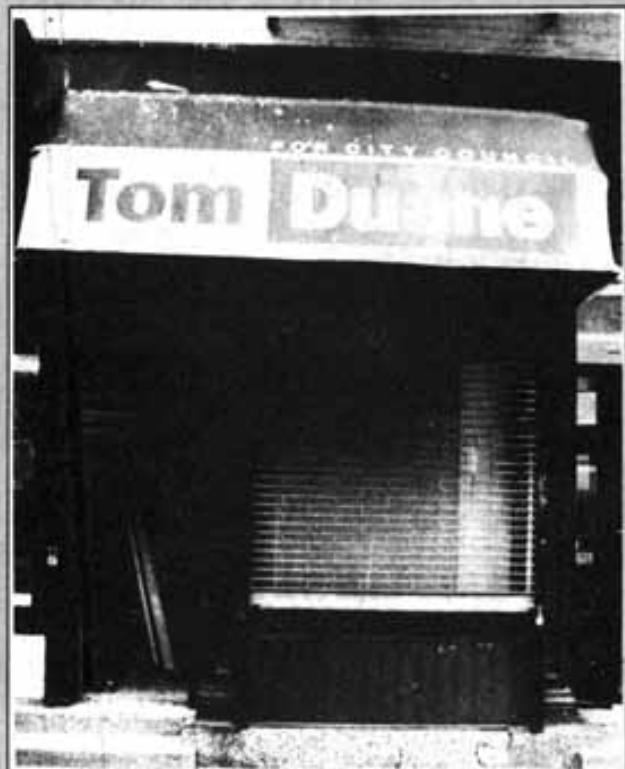
The Copenhagen conference was subtitled "Re-Gaying HIV," in recognition of the fact that the "AIDS establishment" is rapidly gaining control of the AIDS organizations founded and nurtured by homosexuals.

"It's a question of doing justice to the achievements of the gay community," said British AIDS activist and conference organizer Simon Watney.

"AIDS organizations in the West appoint heterosexuals as directors in order to appear respectable and get government funding. We have to insist that it be remembered that the professionals who have entered the epidemic entered late and entered reluctantly."

"Everywhere you look," Watney continued, "governments are claiming responsibility for the safer sex revolution amongst gay men, which is preposterous. Gay men invented safe sex."

Watney charged that the "heterosexual professionals who have entered



NEW YORK—Although he lost the election to incumbent Carol Greitzer, and his former campaign headquarters, above, is soon to become Chelsea's newest Chinese Restaurant, Tom Duane told *OutWeek* that his recent run for city council was "the best experience of my life."

And while Duane, who is currently a community relations liaison for Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman, has not yet officially announced his intention to run for a city council seat in 1991, he is "focusing very closely on what the redistricting commission is doing."

He added, "I've made it very clear from the beginning that I'm interested in running again, and I'm anxious to see what the new districts are going to look like."

Those new districts, like the new city charter, are the result of a U.S. Supreme Court decision which found New York City's current form of government in violation of the Voting Rights Act.

A 15-member panel comprised of seven people appointed by Mayor David Dinkins, five by Speaker of the Council Peter Velone and three by City Council Minority Leader Susan Molinari of Staten Island, will submit a newly-drawn district map to the U.S. Justice Department some time later this year. The new map will likely increase the number of districts by almost 50 percent, making each new district considerably smaller.

That map will also determine, to some extent, the possibility for gay representation on the city council, when special elections are held late in 1991.

And Tom Duane's predictions? "Safe seats for incumbents, with possibilities for insurgents." Which sounds like pretty good odds, should he decide to make a go of it again. —Andrew Miller

Photo: Bill Bytsura

the field have refused to learn anything from gay community experience, which is demonstrably the most important factor in safer sex. There is a recalcitrant homophobia."

Among the 200 delegates, who came from 19 European nations, were representatives from gay and AIDS groups in the former Communist nations of Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary and Poland.

—Rex Wockner

Anti-gay terror in Argentina

Thirty gay men are arrested each night in Buenos Aires, according to the latest communiqué from *Comunidad Homosexual Argentina*.

In a plea for help sent to members of the International Lesbian and Gay Association Feb. 21, CHA president Alejandro Zalazar and secretary Teresa De Rito also described a massive raid on all the city's gay bars Dec. 22 during which 400 homosexuals were arrested.

According to CHA, federal police officers engage in varying forms of psychological torture, including: "If the person is in the closet, they threaten to phone the family or the employer and sometimes do. Persons arrested are forced to undress, threatened with guns, verbally abused, given nothing to eat and little to drink, exposed to mockery, insults, humiliation and even sexual assault.

"They get thrown into common cells with drunkards, robbers and the homeless," CHA continued, "get slapped, and are forced to clean the bathrooms, sweep the precincts, serve the policemen and do menial work. They are also denied access to the phone and beaten if they appeal."

Homosexuality is not illegal in Argentina, so gays are taken in on "trumped-up prostitution charges." According to CHA, such arrests are allowed under "police edicts," which circumvent the courts. The first two arrests require the payment of large fines. A third offense leads to a month in jail and a fourth to years in prison.

A second level of police harassment of gays falls under a law known

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as ACT 333/58, which allows random arrests in order to search for criminal records. Under the law, those arrested can only be held for 24 hours, but CHA says police routinely fail to register arrests until hours later.

"In practice, police kidnap people for one or two days," the group said.

On Jan. 4, CHA members met with Secretary of the Interior Dr. Rafael Barra, who said he would talk to the federal chief of police. The result,

however, was large-scale raids on the city's gay bars on Jan. 5, 6 and 7.

In defense of the policies, federal police maintain that the arrest of gays keeps law and order because of "the criminal tendencies of drunkards, drug addicts, gay people, teenagers, prostitutes, the homeless and the poor," CHA wrote.

CHA requests protest letters to Argentinean President Carlos Menen at: Balcarce 50, 1064 Buenos Aires, Argentina; and to Dr. Julio Mera

Figueroa, Minister of the Interior; at the same address. Send a copy to the International Lesbian and Gay Association Action Secretariat at GLF-Köln, Bismarckstrasse 17, D-5000 Köln 1, West Germany; and to CHA at Rodriguez peña 681, 2do. Piso, Depto. 4, Código Postal 1020, Buenos Aires.

—Rex Wockner

Gays secretly organize in Romania

A clandestine gay group has formed at the University of Bucharest, according to Calle Almedal, an employee of the Norwegian Red Cross who just returned from a fact-finding mission to Romania.

In his "Mission Report," Almedal wrote: "Homosexuality is forbidden by law. There are, however, possibilities to get in touch with gay men in the major hotels. There is also a gay group in formation at the University of Bucharest, but it is still clandestine. We did not manage to get in touch with them."

In a Feb. 22 interview, Almedal said his information came from a Romanian TV reporter who received a letter from the gay group.

"They have demanded that she have programs on homosexuality and that she help abolish the [anti-gay] law in the penal code," Almedal said. "We also heard there had been a street demonstration in which students demanded that the law be abolished, that the study week be shortened and that some exams be postponed."

Almedal said it was easy to meet gay men in the reception areas of the Hotel Dorbanti and Hotel Intercontinental in Bucharest.

Romania is presently in the throes of a childhood AIDS epidemic that health officials believe will soon explode into the adult heterosexual population.

The children were infected via contaminated blood transfusions or through the re-use of unsterilized hypodermic needles.

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Health authorities believe heterosexual adults are at serious risk because of a series of factors present in the port city of Constanta.

First, prostitutes in Constanta have sex with a wide variety of international sailors. Then, the same women have sex with Romanian dock workers and with other men in the town. Finally, all full-time laborers in Constanta are required to donate blood, which is not screened for HIV.

To date, Romanian health authorities have apparently not spoken about AIDS among homosexuals.

According to Almedal, part of the reason is that "the gay community as such doesn't exist in Romania.

"There are just nuclei of gay people who know each other," he said. "The laws were very strictly enforced. Even people who have been homosexually infected with HIV would not have come out [of the closet]; they would have said they got it from a woman."

The emergence of the clandestine gay group in Bucharest leaves Bulgaria as the only East Bloc nation with no known gay organization.

—Rex Wockner

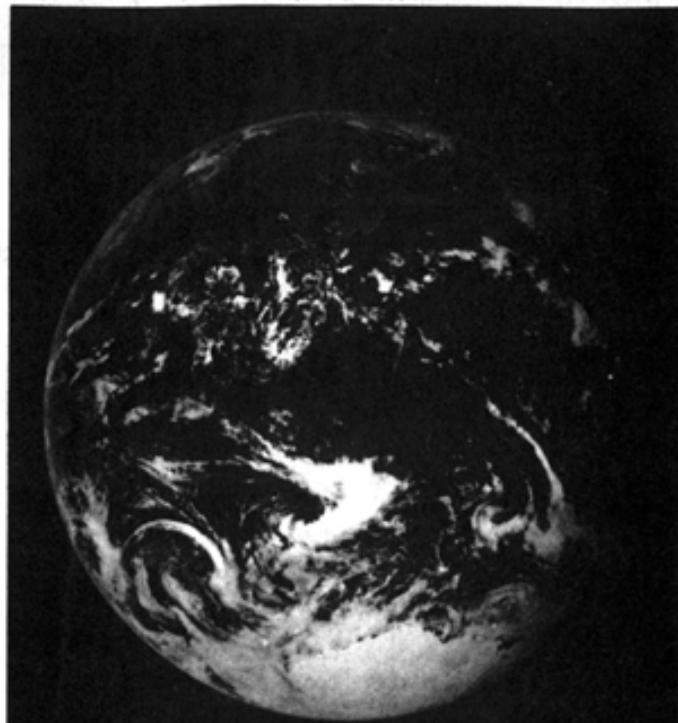
Koop pushes for early HIV care

WASHINGTON—Former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop joined Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.) in calling on Congress to ensure HIV-infected individuals early and convenient access to medical treatment during testimony before a House subcommittee Feb. 27, while guarding against demands for federal mandatory HIV testing and contact tracing.

Speaking before the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, Koop stated that a growing feeling of complacency about AIDS, coupled with a sense that the disease will not affect the great majority of Americans, has led many to think that the ever-growing epidemic is already under control.

"These problems have yet to be addressed at the national level," Koop stated. "And if they are not addressed they will only get worse."

He added, "When a patient feels



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Out Takes

there is sufficient reward to take the risk of getting tested, they will," Koop added, "If they do not, they will not."

Earlier, Waxman chided both the Bush and Reagan administrations for their limited AIDS funding.

"Because of the years of misplaced moralizing about sex and drugs," Waxman stated, "government has missed its opportunity to slow the spread of the virus. Now the weight of the inevitable caseload is coming crashing down on our hospitals and our public assistance programs.... The sins of the Reagan prevention policy around AIDS are going to have to be paid by the Bush payment plan."

To counter that problem, Waxman has now introduced the Medicaid AIDS and HIV Amendments of 1990 (H.R. 4080), a comprehensive AIDS care package which would, among other things, allow asymptomatic, HIV positive individuals to qualify for Medicaid disability benefits before they actually develop AIDS symptoms and would grant federal matching funds to states implementing insurance assistance programs for people with AIDS.

As he has done in virtually every AIDS hearing of the subcommittee, Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.)—absent for virtually all of Koop's testimony—took the opportunity to again call for the U.S. government to treat AIDS as "a public health issue and not a civil rights issue."

While on one hand professing support for AIDS and HIV patients being afforded early access to drugs with federal tax dollars, Dannemeyer also insisted that the federal government should make those funds contingent on states' ordering mandatory testing, name reporting and contact tracing of people infected with HIV. Dannemeyer also pressed Waxman for committee consideration of his AIDS bill (H.R. 3102) which would order such efforts.

But Waxman reminded Dannemeyer that, even with widespread laws mandating contact tracing and name reporting of carriers of sexually transmitted diseases, syphilis and gonorrhea rates have not abated.

"If this is a panacea for the problem," Waxman quipped, "it makes you

wonder why we're now having the highest rates of syphilis in years."

—Cliff O'Neill

Bush to speak on AIDS

WASHINGTON—President George Bush is scheduled to deliver his second speech on AIDS as president at an upcoming suburban Washington conference of business and labor leaders addressing the epidemic, a White House spokesperson confirmed Feb. 21.

The president will deliver the keynote address at the March 29 Crystal City, Va. conference of the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS, a confederation of 180 businesses, labor unions and community groups addressing AIDS in the workplace.

Also scheduled to speak at the conference are Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and James Curran, AIDS activities director for the Centers for Disease Control.

Gregory King, communications director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, said "They [the coalition] have been great leaders in the fight for responsible AIDS policies in the workplace. The president's decision to address them indicates that he understands that discrimination against people with HIV disease is still a serious problem that needs to be addressed."

But the White House's agreement to speak to the group has also been met with skepticism from some gay and lesbian activists who note that Bush recently declined an invitation to speak to the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, which will be held in San Francisco this June.

"We were extremely disappointed in his unwillingness to speak there," stated Robert Bray, public information director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "Our sources told us that, among other reasons, he declined to speak [due to] a fear of huge

demonstrations which are expected to happen...in San Francisco that week."

The Sixth International Conference on AIDS, to be held the same week as San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day celebration, is expected to be the target of vociferous demonstrations by AIDS and gay/lesbian activists. Many of the demonstrations will be focused on the standing U.S. immigration and visitors policy against HIV infected foreigners. —Cliff O'Neill ▼

FUTURE from page 14

Christianity was identified as a major factor in homophobia, AIDS hysteria, internalized racism and self-hatred. And sexism, misogyny and closed-door "good ole boy-ism" were tagged for impeding the success of the progressive movements.

Bellinger's message was that we need to work with everyone if we are going to get any work done. "I know that there are some of us who don't date certain people because they process their hair, or we don't talk to people who change their eye color, or they're not attractive, or they're not this or that." Johnson put it best when she said, "We must get past our differences in order to make a difference."

Although much of the workshop was practical, much more of it was a healing of our battle wounds from activist work, validation of our worth as individuals, as gays and lesbians, as Blacks, as people of color, as leaders. And we were challenged, and encouraged, to remain committed, focused, informed and concerned.

It is the hope of conference planners to package the leadership workshop so that organizations across the country will have access to it.

Not enough sleep, not enough single women, and expensive Atlanta cab rides could not dampen the feelings of healing, courage, encouragement, friendship, fear, hope, power, pride and love that I felt intensely throughout the weekend. Many of us left the conference hopeful that we are making a difference through the activism work that we do, and that Black lesbians and gay men are a part of a national movement that cannot be turned back. ▼

Obituaries

Howard Schwartz

Howard Schwartz died from AIDS on February 23. He was 41. Howard was a dentist, with a community-based solo practice in the East Village. He was an active member of the Manhattan Dental Guild, an organization of lesbian and gay dentists, and of Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, New York's synagogue serving the lesbian and gay community.

Howard was an unusually gentle, earnest and caring man. I first met him in the late 1970s, when we both began attending services at C.B.S.T. At the time, Howard was an environmental biologist employed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. His main project involved exposing environmental violations along the Hudson River, and he was very proud of his testimony at important environmental trials. But he felt a strong need to help people more directly, so he went back to school for a dental degree.

Howard graduated from dental school in the mid-1980s as the tide of AIDS was relentlessly rising in New York City. He was determined to provide services to people with AIDS, so he advertised his practice in the gay press and notified appropriate agencies. He was one of a handful of dentists in this city who accepted persons with AIDS as clients without any special fuss and on a no-fee basis in many cases, and he continued to practice as long as he could after receiving his own diagnosis so that those vital services would still be available.

Howard was also a very dedicated Jew. During the Yom Kippur war, he went to Israel as a volunteer, and he integrated his Judaism and his gay identity through active participation at C.B.S.T. Many times over the past decade he stood up on Friday nights or at holiday services to give sermons which always stressed the duty of all of us to serve those less fortunate.

In 1987, Howard suddenly developed tuberculosis and was subsequently diagnosed with AIDS. It is likely that he contracted the tuberculosis from a patient. He was able to secure access to AZT and responded well enough to be able to resume his dental practice until this past fall.

Howard was very lucky to share the last nine years of his life with Dr. Jose Sotolongo, who provided love

and support through his illness. Howard is also survived by his parents and sister. Howard and Jose requested that donations be made in Howard's memory to the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. Congregation Beth Simchat Torah will hold a memorial service for Howard later this spring.

—Arthur S. Leonard



Michael Scherker,

Dance Archivist and Author

Michael Scherker died February 19th at Coney Island Hospital. A diabetic, Michael had been weakened and the level of insulin in his body imbalanced. While at home alone, he fell into insulin shock, later succumbing to complications from a diabetic coma. He was 32 years old.

A native New Yorker, Michael began his career at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum as an assistant librarian. He then assumed the position of archivist for the Dance Theater of Harlem. Michael's dedication to the project of maintaining and preserving documents, be they written, recorded or filmed, led him in 1987 to found Preserve, the Coalition for Performing Arts Archives. Working with Preserve co-founder and friend Leslie Hansen Kopp of Lincoln Center's Special Collections, he instructed dance, theater and music groups in preservation techniques. With the organizational help of Dance U.S.A., a Washington-based dance service organization, Michael and Ms. Kopp traveled the country throughout 1989 giving archival workshops.

Defying the usual concessions to sleep and rest, Michael was simultaneously involved in conducting interviews, compiling information and plotting the outline of a major oral history on the Stonewall riots. A vital breakthrough came when he and Joan Gibbs, an attorney at the Center for

Constitutional Rights, fought—and won—to gain access to New York Police Department records on the riots, many of which had never before been made public. Working with editor Michael Denneny at St. Martin's Press, Michael had only recently begun to wind down his extensive research and consolidate the two cubic feet of material he had amassed. Michael often joked that people had started referring to him as the "Stonewall expert," a comment that reflects his exceptional humility and near awe at being commended for his devotion and labor.

That Michael was never able to finish his book is an unspeakable tragedy. The material is not lost as he was meticulous about the project and his responsibility to it, but there is no way to fully envision what life he would have breathed into it. Michael worked for his convictions. He was a sweet, sweet man and a great friend to all those who knew him.

Michael is survived by his parents, Leo and Dorothy, and two brothers, Elliot and Steven, all of Miami.

—Sarah Pettit

Obituary Policy

OutWeek accepts and publishes obituaries from our readers free of charge. Submissions should be in writing and may be accompanied by a photograph. OutWeek reserves the right to edit obituaries. Please mail to: OutWeek Magazine, 159 West 25th Street, Seventh Floor, New York City, NY 10010.

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Commentary by Susie Day

One day, Little Red Riding Hood was skipping merrily through the forest with a lovely basket of goodies to take to her grandmother. The sun was shining and the birds were singing, and things were just as nice as they could be, tra la la. Suddenly, a loud, obnoxious wolf in a plaid sportscoat jumped out in front of Red Riding Hood, waving a microphone in her face and trying to focus his camera.

"Hiya, Babe," roared the wolf. "You look like a lesbian. You wouldn't be one of them lesbians who sleep with men, wouldja? Or did I see you with Madonna at the Cubby Hole? You got spike heels and a whip to go with that cape? What's Chastity Bono like in bed? Come on—help me sell a story to the Post. Spill your guts, kid!"

"Why, I'm Little Red Riding Hood," sang out the apple-cheeked lass. "And I'm taking this basket of goodies to my granny who lives all by herself in a cottage in the woods. Well, bye!" And off she skipped, with another tra la.

The wolf twirled his whiskers in journalistic glee. "There's a story here," he muttered. "I can smell it: *Lesbo Lovechild Gives Granny Gay Goodies*. No. How about: *Rustic Grandma Heartstick Over Gay Red Wench; Blames Navratalova*. Ehh, I'll work out the details later..."

So the wolf picked up his camera and microphone and took a shortcut through the woods to Granny's house. There, in a fit of media overkill, he ate up the old woman and threw her nightgown on over his sportscoat. But as soon as the wolf saw himself in

granny's mirror, a strange transformation overcame him.

"Oh my lord," he gasped, fingering the lace on his cuffs, "I'm in granny's nightie; I understand. I see now that my own closeted homosexuality drove me to exploit gays, people of color, women and the elderly in the main-

The wolf twirled his whiskers in journalistic glee. "There's a story here," he muttered. "I can smell it: *Lesbo Lovechild Gives Granny Gay Goodies*."

stream media. I hereby pledge to work only for the progressive lesbian and gay press, and to depict the downtrodden with accuracy and sensitivity." So saying, he took his camera and microphone and crawled into granny's bed to have a good cry.

But before he could get to the first sniff, Little Red Riding Hood skipped innocently into the cottage and up to the wolf's bedside. "Hello Granny," chirped the wholesome young miss. "And how are you today?"

"Oh, I'm all right," answered the wolf in a quavery, granny-like voice. "All right for being an old, old woman

living in a culture that fears aging and hates the aged; a woman who's spent her life working for rich white men. I'm just one granny among many in this country who has to stay in bed most of the day in order to save on the heat, hoping that her relatives will bring her goodies, so she won't have to owe the grocer for another week's cat food. But I'm darn proud you're a lesbian, dear."

"Why Granny," exclaimed Little Red Riding Hood. "What a bi-i-g social consciousness you have!"

"The better to understand the nature of oppression, my dear," said the wolf.

"But Granny," continued the puzzled moppet, "What a bi-i-g talent you have to make your granddaughter feel enormous guilt."

The wolf smiled. "The better to bring about lasting social change, my dear."

Just then, Red Riding Hood spied the media equipment that had surfaced from under the quilt. "But Granny. What a bi-i-i-i-g microphone you have."

"The better to interview you, my dear!" cried the wolf, throwing off the covers and following the terrified damsel with the camera, as she ran screaming around and around the room.

"EEEEEE! EEEEE! You ate my granny! EEEEEEEEEE!"

"I had to. It was an historical imperative," argued the wolf, raising his fist in a radical salute. "GRANNY! LIVE LIKE HER! Granny was a fine example of the defiant, older working class woman. You'll notice, I hope, that I am wearing a Granny nightgown in solidarity with the worldwide Granny Liberation Struggle. Soon everyone who wants real social change will be wearing one, with a decal of Granny herself on the front. There'll be Granny buttons; Granny calendars. Perhaps you'd like to join one of our 'Grannaremos Brigades.' We go all over North America, liberating old age homes. How do you feel, as the granddaughter of such a noble—"

"I want my granny!" wailed Red Riding Hood.

"Good!" shouted the wolf, tripping over his hemline. "Let me hear your pain as a red diaper lesbian whose proletarian grandmother has been eaten by a news-hungry wolf. Will you be form-

ing a support group to help you cope, or are you already going to ACOA meetings? What are your feelings about animal rights? Tell radical America where it hurts—"

"Oh, will you just go away?" sobbed the girl.

"OK, let's talk," reasoned the wolf in his newly sensitive voice. "I know what you're thinking: 'He ate my granny. What a *male* thing to do'—Right? I admit it; I wanted to consume what I couldn't control. Capitalism is pretty male, too, you know. So is homophobia—"

Suddenly the wolf let out a howl of jubilation. "Here's an idea: we'll start a weekly lesbian and gay magazine. You write *your* story; I'll write *mine*. We'll have news'n sexual politics'n health'n the arts. Of course, we'll have to rely heavily on phone sex ads to pull us through financially, but that's good, because they'll promote safer sex. Will you help me?"

Little Red Riding Hood wiped away a tear with her sleeve. "Well. *Maybe*," she sniffed.

All at once, a big bad senator in a camouflage outfit barged in with his hunting rifle. He had been out shooting defenseless woodland creatures to keep in trim for the next legislative session. "You disgusting beast!" bellowed the senator. "Ah heard whut filth you plan to perpetrate on the innocent people of this land. Ah have already sponsored legislation to cut yore arts fundin'; now Ah'll do away with yore advertisin' revenues. Phone sex will die, an' so will you, you pervert." The senator chuckled maniacally and motioned to Red Riding Hood. "Come here, it'll darlin'. Ah'm agonna protect you. Huh huh huh..."

But at the thought of being protected by such a horrible man, Red Riding Hood threw up all over granny's quilt. Inspired by this innovative protest action, the wolf threw up in solidarity, and up sprang Granny, who was fine, except for a mild heat rash. Granny, the wolf and Little Red Riding Hood instantly decided to put aside their differences and beat the senator to an unrecognizable pulp. Which they did. Then they all sat down to enjoy the goodies and work on their new magazine. Tra la la. The end. ▼



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A P A R T M E N T S

Hypericin Results: Community Research Alliance Study

by John S. James

Hypericin is an antiviral found in St. John's wort, a plant long used as a medicinal herb. AIDS researchers at New York University have studied hypericin's activity against HIV, and also against other retroviruses in animals. Hypericin works in an entirely different way than AZT, and was better than AZT against the retroviral infections in animals.

The researchers have now developed methods for synthesizing large amounts of hypericin; with luck they will begin early "phase I" human trials next summer. Meanwhile the Commu-

Hypericin works in an entirely different way than AZT, and was better than AZT against the retroviral infections in animals.

nity Research Alliance, a San Francisco research organization started by San Francisco's PWA Coalition, began its own observational study of hypericin herbal extracts as an AIDS/HIV treatment last summer. Because the study volunteers obtained their own extracts from buyers' clubs or health-food stores, the Community Research Alliance did not administer any drug and therefore did not need to go through the FDA to obtain an "IND" (Investigational New Drug approval), which for various reasons would have been impossible in this case. The study complied with legal and ethical requirements by being approved by an Institutional Review Board, which the Community Research Alliance had previously organized in accordance with federal regulations. The organization's Scientific Advisory Committee had also approved the study.

Methods

The Community Research Alliance

study lasted four months; a total of 33 volunteers were enrolled. The only entry criteria was to be HIV positive, and not to have used hypericin extracts within the last six months (so that baseline data could be obtained). Extensive blood tests were given at baseline and at four additional monthly visits; other data collected included medical history, physical examinations before and after the four-month test period, and the Merieux Multitest of skin immune response. All testing and other expenses (except for the cost of the herbal extracts, which the research organization could not legally provide) were paid by the Community Research Alliance, which financed the study primarily through donations from individuals; a grant from the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) paid salary for a medical director.

While four months of data were collected, the study actually ran six months, as resource limitations prevented enrollment of all the volunteers at once. There was no problem recruiting people to join the study. Volunteers were not asked to use any particular brand or dose of hypericin extracts, and they were not asked to make any changes in the treatments they would have used anyway, for the sake of the study. They were, of course, asked to report all treatments they used. All volunteers kept daily logs, and compliance with the protocol is believed to have been very good.

A separate treatment database now being developed may be able to collect long-term follow-up information from the volunteers in the future.

Results

Of the 33 patients enrolled, 26 completed the four months. Of the seven who did not complete the study, six were hospitalized for AIDS complications and had to drop out; one was dropped for non-compliance with the protocol.

At first look at the data showed no

clear trends. About as many of the volunteers had T-helper decreases as increases. But a closer look showed a pattern which had not been expected. Of the 26 volunteers who completed the study, ten had never used any AZT, while ten others had been on AZT throughout (the remaining six had either started or stopped AZT during the four months). Of the ten "AZT virgins," eight had T-helper decreases, with the mean decrease for the ten of 13 percent. (The mean T-helper count increased nine percent in the first month, then declined.)

These results do not show that AZT worked poorly with hypericin. Those who were on AZT were more seriously ill, with mean T-helper count of 189 at baseline (before they started hypericin) than those who had never used AZT (mean T-helper count 558 at baseline). The difference in outcome is not surprising, since other anti-HIV treatments, such as AZT and ddI, are known to work better in patients who begin with higher T-helper counts.

The 12 percent T-helper increase in the ten who had never used AZT may be a meaningful trend, since without any treatment the average T-helper count would tend to decrease. However the increase in this small group was not enough to be statistically significant, meaning that it might have occurred by chance. The fact that the increase occurred in the first month, and then was sustained for several months, is consistent with results of other antivirals.

P24 antigen test results were inconclusive—although they did show that there was no dramatic antiviral effect of the hypericin—extract treatment. Only six of the 26 who completed the study were p24 positive at the beginning. Two became p24 negative, but they were on AZT throughout the study, so the improvement might have been due to AZT. Of the other four, two went up and two went down. No one changed from negative to positive.

What about safety? There have been several anecdotal reports that some people's liver enzyme values have risen after use of St. John's wort, suggesting possible toxicity. In this study, five of the 26 volunteers showed rises in liver-function test values, and were advised to discontinue the herbal extract. All returned to normal after 30 days off the treatment, except for one who had earlier liver problems and high liver-function values before starting the study. This effect (rise in liver function tests in some patients) is suspected to be due not to hypericin but to some other component in the herbal extract, since animal studies have shown no effect on liver enzymes even when very large doses of pure hypericin were given.

Much other data was collected and has not yet been analyzed. But principal investigator Dr. William Cooper has not seen anything striking or unusual in a first look.

Comments

A small, uncontrolled observational study like this one is not designed to prove that a treatment does or does not work. This study provides no proof either way, although the trends observed were in the direction which would be expected if there was some effect.

One reason for doing this study was the hope that there might have been benefits dramatic enough (for some groups of patients at least) that they would be unmistakable even in this limited trial. No such benefits were found. We should remember, however, that the available herbal extracts contain only small amounts of hypericin, and there have been doubts as to whether there is enough to be effective. It is still possible that pure hypericin, or perhaps better extracts, could be of major benefit.

Even before this study began, it was clear that the chance was slight that the herbal extracts would have so dramatic an effect that a small observational study would show it unmistakably. But the chance was not zero; and a positive result would have been of such great importance that we believe the chance justified doing this study, and justifies future studies of other available treatments which have a good scientific rationale.

Reprinted from AIDS Treatment News #96, Feb. 2, 1990.

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New York City Department of Health

Positive Alternatives

Racial and Class Bias in 'The New Age'

by Bob Lederer

HHealth is the place where all social forces converge." So said former Washington, D.C. Health Commissioner Reed Tuckson, addressing the Second International Conference on Traditional and Complementary AIDS Therapies, held in his city on February 9-11. Tuckson, an African-American physician (and recent runner-up for NYC Health Commissioner), was particularly referring to the racism and class disparities—as well as sexism and homophobia—which have made AIDS just the latest example of horrendous rates of disease and death among people of color in the U.S. (and the Third World).

Faced with these multiple health disasters, a small but growing number of African-American, Latino/Latina, Asian-American and Native American doctors and holistic healers have drawn on their rich cultural heritages to serve poor people of all nationalities. One might think the ravages of AIDS in communities of color would have also spurred many white "New Age" healers—with their talk of "empowerment" and "enlightenment"—to share skills and resources with those communities. (Especially since many of their methods came originally from Third World cultures!)

But like their conventional medical colleagues, white holistic doctors, nutritionists, acupuncturists and spiritual healers are shaped by a competitive, profit-based and increasingly racist society. A rare few—Sally Fisher's AIDS Mastery Seminar, the San Francisco Holistic Consortium and several lesbian and gay practitioners come to mind—offer scholarships and sliding scales. But most "alternative" health professionals and training schools (again, like their mainstream

counterparts) charge inflexible, high fees and serve mainly white middle- and upper-class people.

Elitism on Display

As a longtime user and advocate of holistic health methods, I am tired of "New Age" practitioners more interested in money and self-promotion than in extending healing tools to those in greatest need. At holistic AIDS conferences I have attended, this elitism—which also down-plays the vital contributions of PWAs and political activists—has been on blatant display.

One such event, the Advanced Immune Discoveries Symposium in Los Angeles a year ago February, run by San Francisco physician Lawrence Badgley, was expensive, middle-class-oriented and virtually all-white. I was one of several activists who publicly criticized these biases and formed a broad group which petitioned for changes in future conferences.

The recent Washington conference, the second organized by Donald Pachuta, M.D., director of a Baltimore holistic clinic/school, was again held at a fancy hotel and charged \$250 for registration. Only people with full-blown AIDS could get full scholarships; HIV-positives had to plead for a discount. In a city whose PWAs are over 50 percent Black, less than five percent of the 600 attendees were people of color.

Several valuable holistic approach-

es were presented, including discussion of the helpful roles of certain drugs. The important messages that AIDS can be a "chronic manageable disease," and that a positive mental approach makes a difference, were well communicated.

But the weekend showcased big-name self-love advocates (like Louise Hay and Bernie Siegel, M.D.), meditation teachers, acupuncturists, nutritionists and conventional doctors who primarily serve white middle-class gay men. Few presenters offered practical or sensitive suggestions to those who can't afford upscale services or lack space to address negative thinking and self-hatred—real issues for sure—because they're struggling with day-to-day economic survival.

Problems of IV-drug users were virtually ignored; prisoners were unmentioned; activist voices were almost nonexistent.

No person of color was on the panel of seven PWA long-term survivors. Tuckson was the only plenary speaker of color, although a dynamic and energetic D.C. Black gay activist, Aundrea Scott, led two excellent workshops sharing his experiences in forming Black health and political groups which have empowered PWAs and advocates and impacted city AIDS policies. The invitation to these two speakers, while a step forward, grew out of my criticism of Pachuta last year for planning an all-white AIDS policy discussion panel (he added them at the last minute).

Before this year's conference, both a Spanish-speaker and a sign language



LAST MINUTE ADDITION
Aundrea Scott

interpreter for the deaf offered to translate the proceedings; Pachuta refused to waive the conference fee to allow them to attend. He also denied free admission to an independent Black PWA filmmaker seeking to interview conference attendees for an upcoming production on neglected PWA populations. Yet TV newscasts were warmly welcomed.

Organizing For Change

During the question period after Tuckson's speech, I spoke out about these issues and invited concerned conferees to meet. A diverse group of 12, among them a social worker, nurse, spiritual healer and PWA activists (including eight Blacks and one Latino), came up with a list of suggestions for future conferences, such as: discount admissions for those in need; more speakers of color; more attention to issues of drug users; holding the conference at a cheaper and more community-oriented location; and bringing grassroots Black, Latino, PWA and AIDS activist groups into the planning. Our spokesperson briefly took over the microphone during a break and summarized our points. Pachuta ignored the intrusion, but hopefully, seeds of change were planted in the audience, which included many doctors, nurses, HIV counselors, holistic healers and PWAs whom I found to be genuinely concerned.

A long struggle lies ahead—with "New Age" institutions for sure, but primarily with the *real* power centers in the government, drug companies, insurance industry and AMA (American Medical Association). Just maybe, with persistent education and organizing, *holistic* health can some day become "the place where all social forces converge"—this time, to set an example of community empowerment for the medical system as a whole.

Aundrea Scott leads a certificate-awarding "Holistic Peer Counselor Training Program" geared to HIV/AIDS in the Black community; topics include herbs, vitamins, diet, massage and mind-body healing. Contact Us Helping Us, Inc., 1707 7th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001, or call (202) 387-0800. For copies of the suggestions submitted to the 1989 and 1990 conferences, contact the author c/o OutWeek. ▼

GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION

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The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) seeks a full-time Deputy Director for Development to coordinate our fundraising plan in the areas of membership, direct mail, major donors, grants and special events. Fundraising experience preferred. Alternatively, marketing or business management experience required. Computer Literacy (or willingness to learn) necessary. Familiarity with the lesbian and gay community helpful. Compensation: low 30's plus benefits. Send cover letter and resume by March 12 to: GLAAD, 80 Varick St. #3E, New York, NY 10013. For more information, call (212) 966-1700

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GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS

GLAAD TIDINGS

GLAAD Tidings is a program of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. For more information about the material in this week's column, or about GLAAD, call (212) 966-1700.

Western Union has decided that profits are more important than gay civil rights.

Armand Ertag, a former Western Union executive, has filed a lawsuit against the company charging he was discriminated against because of his sexual orientation. The lawsuit was filed in San Francisco which has a gay rights ordinance prohibiting discrimination in employment and elsewhere.

What is particularly troubling is the argument that Western Union is using as its defense. Rather than simply denying the charge of discrimination, the company is attempting to attack the legality of San Francisco's Gay Rights Ordinance, and those of other cities in California.

Western Union is arguing that San Francisco's Board of Supervisors lacks the authority to ban anti-gay discrimination by private employers. It is also arguing that the city cannot empower individuals to bring lawsuits against discriminatory employers.

The company is basing its arguments on language in the State's Fair Employment and Housing Code, which indicates that the state, as opposed to local governments, have jurisdiction in employment and housing discrimination. Ertag's lawyers have responded that since local gay rights ordinances are not mentioned in the code, there is not clear indication that the state meant to preclude cities from acting on the issue.

What is the bottom line? Western Union's arguments, if supported by the courts, could invalidate local gay rights

ordinances in several California cities.

Western Union needs to hear from you that anti-gay discrimination, and not anti-discrimination laws, should be challenged and condemned.

Write to Mr. Robert J. Amman, President and CEO, Western Union Corporation, One Lake Street, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 07458. Or call him at (212) 825-5000. GLAAD wishes to thank GLAAD member (and *OutWeek* columnist) Art Leonard for supplying us with information for the above item.

Kudos go to *New York Woman* magazine for their February article "Truth and Consequences" about lesbians deciding whether or not to come out.

The piece acknowledged that "the decision to live our lives openly, as what we are, can be an agonizing one, and for many, an intensely brave one." Based on interviews with many of New York's own, it examines the political content of coming out, the price we pay to stay in the closet, as well as domestic partner issues, adoption and natural parenting, and political activism in the lesbian community. There are also two sidebars, one giving a brief history of the bar scene, and a "date-line" account of important moments in our history.

Although lesbianism was acknowledged as a legitimate concern of feminism almost 20 years ago, it is all too seldom we are made visible in any women's magazines. Write to editor-in-chief Betsy Carter at *New York Woman*, 1120 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10036. Thank them for a fine article that contributes to increased visibility and positive images of lesbians.

* * * * *

Rush Limbaugh is a homophobe and radio commentator whose rantings can be heard in many cities across the country, including at least two cities with GLAAD chapters: New York (WABC-AM), Los Angeles (KFI) and San Francisco (KGO).

We've documented the homophobia of many bigots in this column. Trust—Limbaugh is one of the worst. Here's a sampling provided by our Los Angeles chapter, of nastier moments in his February 13 program:

* On members of a family that got

AIDS through a blood transfusion (in comparison to gay men): "innocent," and "didn't do one damn thing behaviorwise that placed them at risk."

* On the gay community's complaints about Reagan's silence of AIDS for many years: "If Ronald Reagan had said 'I care, I'm spending money,' would you have stopped going to the bathhouses? Would you have stopped anal intercourse? Would you have stopped the level of promiscuity that exists in your community...?"

* On gays and political power: "The Democratic party—is it any wonder they cannot win national elections—they give platforms to aberrant people..."

* On his own commentary's relation to anti-gay violence: "[Some people say] that I am somehow going to be responsible for motivating to violence people who are anti-gay and want to take action on it. Now, I don't know that I can be held responsible for that by simply commenting. I don't know how I can be held responsible for the actions of the people, unless I'm urging them to go out there and do it...I am merely reporting on what they [gay people] themselves have written and offering my comment on it. If any one takes action, they are the ones responsible for it, not 'me'."

Like many conservative homophobes, Rush Limbaugh is fixated on the gay and lesbian community and jumps at any opportunity to vent his hatred (Andy Rooney's suspension, the ACT UP demonstration at St. Patrick's Cathedral, etc.). His spiel even has a regular "Gay Update" where, in a parody of standard newscaster style, he "reports" on gay and lesbian issues and happenings from his warped and bigoted perspective.

GLAAD/LA has been in contact with Limbaugh's syndicator and has asked that 1) Limbaugh be prevented from using inflammatory rhetoric when discussing our issues and 2) the gay and lesbian community be provided with reasonable rebuttal time each time Limbaugh indulges his bigotry.

To support this national campaign, write to Rush Limbaugh's syndicator, Ed McLaughlin, President, Excellence in Broadcasting Network, c/o WABC, 77 West 66th Street, New York, NY 10023. —Karin Schwartz, with Janet Rogers



AD DESIGN BY: MIKE AND BOB

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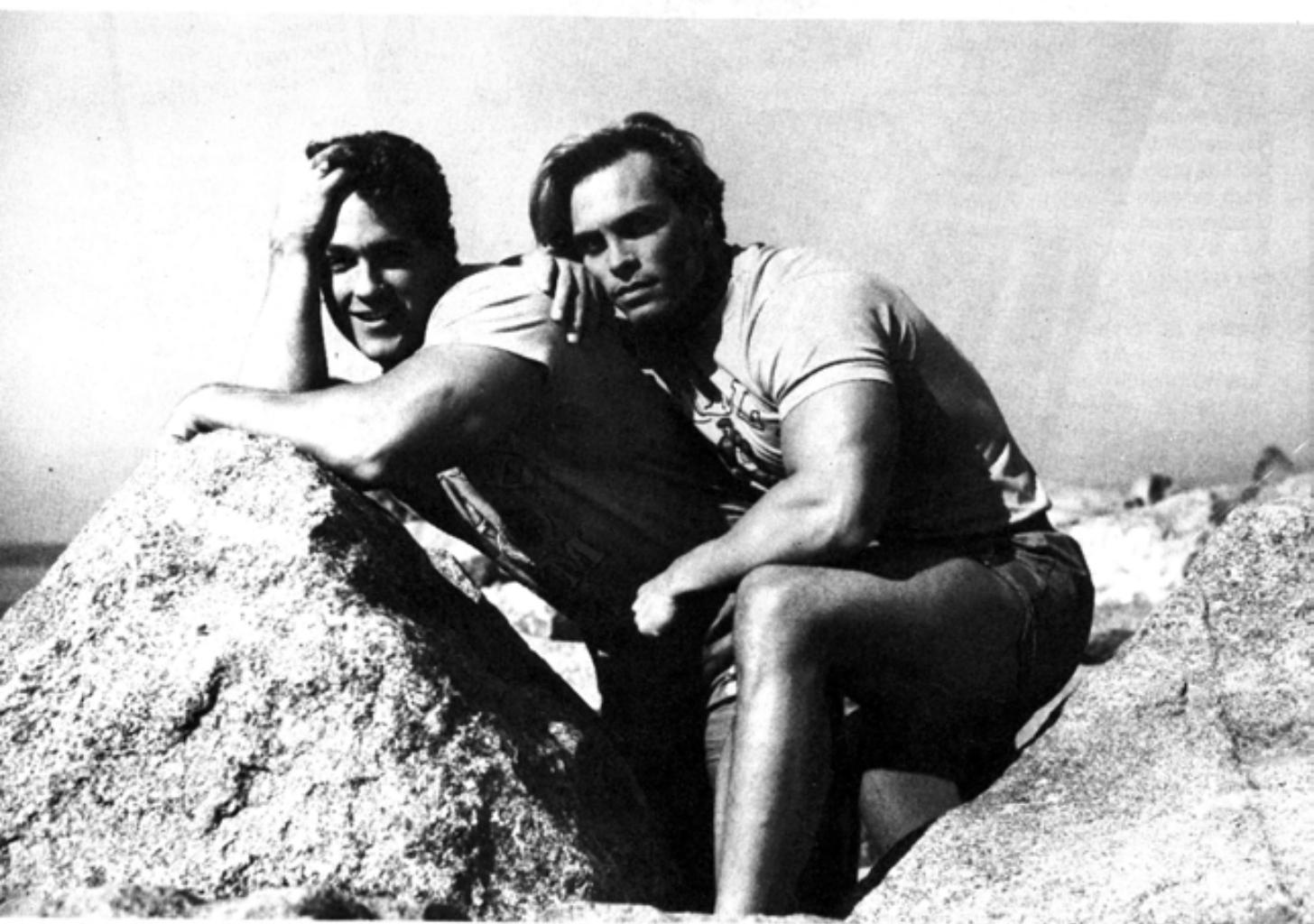
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Political Muscle

They have Ken-doll beauty, miles of biceps and the perfect marriage. And when award-winning, world-class bodybuilder Bob Paris and international model Rod Jackson came out and tied the knot, they brought gay liberation to Middle America.

by Jay Blotcher



Bob Paris (left) and Rod Jackson

Gay America just got itself a pair of posterboys. Image makers. Middle-class musclemuffs with Pepsodent smiles and wholesome values in line with any nuclear family surrounded by a white picket fence: marriage, monogamy and the fulfillment that comes from both. Bland? No, heroic. Especially when the couple in question is Bob Paris, former Mr. America and Mr. Universe, and his husband, social worker and model Rod Jackson.

Refreshingly so, these guys don't apologize for their sheer ordinariness. And they put those well-muscled butts on the line in the name of gay pride. It's been seven months since Paris, a major celebrity on the sweat-and-steroid circuit, came out in musclemag *Ironman* for himself and the man he loves—the man he married last July at a Unitarian Church in Santa Monica. It was only a matter of time before they were on *Oprah*, to titillate and challenge the value systems of American housewives.

Novices to the tug of war of gay politics, Paris and Jackson are overly-cautious in their dealings with the gay press. Negotiations for this interview began last October (long before their *Oprah* stint). Paris and Jackson liked *OutWeek*; they had previously turned down other interview requests. What followed was a string of letters and phone calls, all the while the pair profusely apologizing for their paranoia. They have since loosened up, and granted other interviews to the gay press.

Still glowing over their matrimonial state, Bob and Rod fled Los Angeles this past fall for Olympia, Washington, where they now live with Barney the macaw, and canine pals Samantha and Dakota. articulate and charming, Bob and Rod offer a party line based on New Age jargon, self-respect and mutual love. Hail them as lovers taking their first baby steps as activists. And be kind to them; they're fighting for your rights too.

Jay Blotcher: What drove you to use an act of love, your marriage, as a springboard for a political statement?

Bob Paris: Our marriage wasn't a political statement. What's sad is that it's been turned into one.

Rod Jackson: I think the gay community should question why it is political to get married. Why can't the community allow diversity?

BP: Our marriage was covered in the bodybuilding press the same way as any other professional's marriage. They handled it matter-of-factly.

RJ: Our friends had been asking us why we hadn't been married yet. Many of our friends are straight and had seen our relationship for three and a half years. Our gay friends were saying the same thing.

We got no objections from friends, and even if there were some, we don't give a damn. We got married for us and only us. As a community, why aren't we fighting for all our civil rights, so that we all have those options open to us?

BP: Protection from violence, job protection, legal marriage—all of those things. As long as we're missing any of our rights, we don't have any of our rights.

RJ: Part of it is that the community is afraid. Let's face it, there's a small circle of people in the gay community who decide what the gay ideology is. We've had it thrust down our throats by the straight world and it's being reinforced by the gay world.

BP: We're the most diverse minority in the entire world; we cross all lines. Why are we limiting ourselves from the diversity that everyone else enjoys?

RJ: We [gay people] are our own worst enemies. We are *asking* for our rights. Shouldn't we be *demanding* our rights? If every gay and lesbian came out of the closet, sexuality prejudice would be moot.

BP: There are people out there demanding rights, but it gets undermined.

RJ: We are so busy saying that 'the

"Some of the gay people in powerful situations were disappointed that we wouldn't be two little bunny boys that they could hand a script to."

—Bob Paris



TAKING VOWS — Paris and Jackson during their wedding ceremony

straight world is [oppressing] me.' Who's going to change it if we're not going to?

BP: We got 14,000 letters since *Ironman*. The majority of them have been incredibly supportive and embracing. Two letters came this week from two young men, and they made all of this worth it. They basically said, "If I hadn't seen you guys on *Oprah*, I would have killed myself. I already had it planned out, but now I see there's a reason to live."

RJ: We know people who are involved in several gay rights issues, but they're closeted to their family, in their work, in society. We also know people who don't have time [to be politically active] but they're out all the time in the world, being who they are. So, you tell me who's more political?

Being young and gay, it's hard enough to have the straight world [against you]. Then you run to the gay world to find something else to embrace

you. Many people are not liking what they're seeing.

BP: And by the mail we've gotten.

JB: You came out for individual love, as well as gay love and marriage, and yet there was a backlash from the gay community. What happened?

BP: Once a person comes out of the closet, everybody wants a little piece of you to take for their organization.

RJ: And they feel that since you're gay, they have a right to put their words in your mouth.

BP: Some of the people in powerful situations were disappointed that we wouldn't be two little bunny boys that they could hand a script to. And all these strings appear and [the offers] go away.

RJ: And we're left behind with, "You're self-hating; you're greedy; you're out for money."

BP: We didn't come out to be activists; we're just living our lives proudly.

"People say, 'They did this to get rich.' If there is so much money in being a gay public figure, why are there so few?" —Rod Jackson

RJ: We have too many people saying, "this is your responsibility" when they're not taking responsibility for their own lives. If we had come out for other than our spiritual growth, our personal love for ourselves and each other, we would be so disappointed at this point.

BP: I'm not trying to cry poormouth, but we lost a lot of money during this last year. By coming out, we lost a lot of our bookings.

RJ: And people say, "they did this to get rich." If there is so much money to be made being a public gay figure, why are there so few?

I tell the gay community, "you have an openly proud, gay athlete, the only one who's taken things this far. Back this up."

BP: If you want openly gay people, you're going to have to support them. Otherwise, we're just going to get flushed down the toilet.

RJ: Why can a closeted gay performer or athlete be in the closet yet make a killing from the community, while being very self-hating and serving as a very poor example in public?

JB: Where do gays figure in the bodybuilding world? In the mid-70s, the book and movie *Pumping Iron* briefly looked at bodybuilding and homosexuality through the filter of narcissism.

BP: As far as gayness and bodybuilding are concerned, it's been a mythical thing that bodybuilding is a gay sport. It has an incredible amount of gay support. But from my perspective, there are as many gay athletes as there are gays in society in general. There tends to be a good camaraderie between the pros, as in any sport. My fellow professionals may be religious or have their homophobia. But once they see a proud person, they are very supportive of that.

JB: As white, homosexual men, do you have a better chance of being

accepted than people of color do?

BP: I don't know if our road is any easier as white gay men. By living our lives out of the closet, we know racism, prejudice and bigotry first hand. We need to build bridges between the gay minority and Black and Hispanic minorities. There's a real level of hatred there and it's causing problems.

JB: Do you believe that a gay relationship operates by different standards than a heterosexual union?

RJ: Doesn't a union go by the rules you set yourself? Some gay men say they can't be monogamous; I think that's complete bullshit. They were taught this bullshit that straight marriages are monogamous. Let's get a grip on what marriage really means.

We're not saying fidelity and monogamy for everybody. There needs to be options within the community. I have gay and straight friends in monogamous relationships, and gay and straight friends who are incredibly promiscuous. That's their option. But we're not alone. We've gotten 14,000 letters and a good half of them are looking for the same thing [as we have].

JB: Bob, in interviews, you have said that the dilemma of coming to terms with your sexuality in public hindered the growth of your bodybuilding career.

BP: I'm 30-years-old, I haven't reached the prime of my career yet. I make some mistakes. My career has moved along pretty consistently. I also took a two year break. It held me back inside my heart. What was missing from my life was my soulmate. When that took place, I had a much purer perspective, and a lot more strength.

There's this assumption that since I've come out publicly, I'm retired from the sport. They say, My God, how could you still be competitive. If you've come out, haven't you destroyed your career?



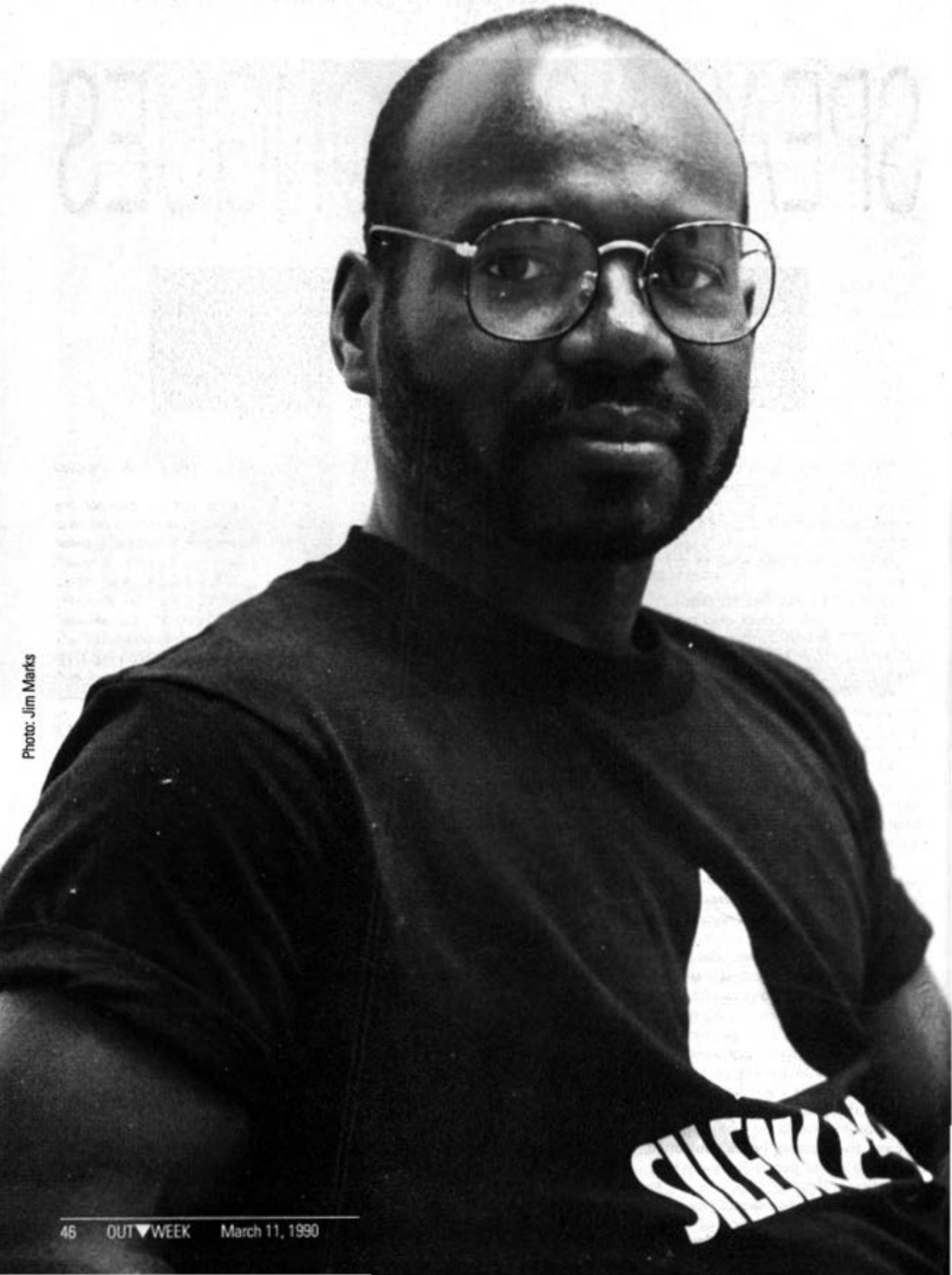
Paris (standing) and Jackson with pets, Barney the macaw and Samantha

RJ: By saying that, they're limiting him already.

BP: More people should realize they hold the power. The community should be there to back them up. If an openly gay person was bashed on the street in my hometown, Columbus, Indiana, and the police gave them shoddy treatment, why don't 20,000 people descend on the town until justice is served?

RJ: We've had our lives threatened and we've talked about what if one of us gets taken. But we have faith enough that there's something past this. Maybe that's where the spirituality needs to come in. The Black movement got moving because there was something to keep them going. Maybe as a community we have to develop more spirituality to enable us to set ourselves free.

BP: We really have to reach inside and gather all the strength we can find. Look at the resilience it takes to maintain the lie of the closet. If that energy could be rechanneled into out-of-the-closet energy, then you've changed your life. ▼



SPEAKING IN TONGUES

From Past to Present, Filmmaker Marlon Riggs Continues to Unearth Black Gay America

by Jim Marks

With his balding pate and round glasses, 32-year-old filmmaker Marlon Riggs looks a little like a young Mahatma Gandhi. The comparison is apt if it recalls that Gandhi was also an intensely spiritual, intellectual man who liked to shake people up.

Riggs did just that with his film, *Ethnic Notions*. When *Notions* aired nationally on PBS it proved unsettling to Blacks and whites alike. It also won a 1989 Emmy award.

Riggs continues to defy convention. In October 1989, his *Tongues Untied* premiered at the American Film Institute's (AFI) Video Festival. *Tongues* captures Riggs' personal "search for affirmation, community, fellowship and love in America as Black gay men." It begins with his nude image behind the opening credits (and discusses AIDS in the context of his discovery that he is HIV antibody-positive). As Howard University Professor Ron Simmons wrote in *Black Film Review*, "One cannot help but admire [Riggs'] courage."

That courage goes back a long way.

Riggs first encountered racism during the year he lived in Georgia. In 1968, racial tensions ran high at the newly desegregated Hepzibah Junior High. The 11-year-old Riggs was one of two Blacks placed in the top class. "I thought, foolishly, of running for student council. It was foolish because in the schoolyard it was, 'look at that damn nigger over there, who does he think he is?'"

He was friendless and isolated. "Because I was in this class, the Black students looked at me as if I thought I were above them, so they treated me

with hostility too. I just suffered, worked hard and got good grades."

no wonder he felt liberated when the family moved to Germany. "For the military dependents—the army brats—it was extremely idealistic. In Germany one saw friendships between guys and girls who were Asian, white, Black, Latino, Puerto Rican. It was a very affirming experience to find there could be a community in which I could be myself."

By contrast, Harvard proved "another traumatic time. I had then to confront this emerging sense of homosexuality within myself, and how that was setting me apart from the Black students. Things were said about that 'faggot' (as it was put then) and I knew, even though I had a vague notion of what I was at the time, it applied to me in some way."

Just as the little boy in Hepzibah studied harder to survive, so the college student turned to books to find out about himself.

"I was so naive. You can imagine. These are respected, staid Harvard professor types. A short Black student comes in, very serious, very somber, saying, 'I would like to do a study independently directed by you on homosexuality in American literature, from the 1800s to the present'; as if it were a course listed in a catalogue.

"They could not get out of their mouths the word 'gay.' They would say things like, 'That's an interesting theme. I don't know if I have any qualifications to direct it.'

But thanks to "this tunnel vision that I can have" he eventually met a tutor named Paul Marx. "He was an exuberant man, full of life. He brought out books, said, 'here, look at this. Walt Whitman!

This is where you need to start.' He died of AIDS this year.

"I considered him my mentor. He made me see that homosexuality was more than intellectual. It became spiritual as well. It wasn't just fucking, it wasn't just finding a boyfriend. And that's always been my thing, to look at history and find value and meaning and lessons."

The move from Harvard history major to video maker "wasn't a big jump for me. I grew up hearing that those who succeed in some ways owe it to the community and they need to pull others up with them. It was always assumed I would be a preacher, or an attorney, that I would mobilize and lead people." Through an "intellectual process," he arrived at television as the best way "to communicate all the wonderful things I was learning. I really couldn't reach people through the usual teaching method."

After a year-long detour in his hometown of Ft. Worth, Texas, Riggs enrolled at the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley (where he now teaches). His first video, his master's thesis, *Long Train Running*, documented the creation of a distinct jazz sound by the Blacks who'd migrated to the Easy Bay in World War II. It won an AFI first prize in 1982. "It was a deceptive beginning. I was so naive. I didn't know filmmakers go into poverty to do this work."

About the time that *Long Train Running* began winning awards, Riggs attended an exhibition of Black memorabilia. Harvard hadn't prepared him. "Imagine a house full of pickannies, grinning coons, watermelon-eating mammas, banjo-thumping Sambos, Uncle

Toms. And all these images on plates, cups and saucers—things you find in a household but with images of you as a Black person, hideously distorted. This was saying something about America that no one had ever told me in a history class and I'd definitely never seen this in any film or video."

It took five years to make *Ethnic Notions*, the film that exhibit had inspired. "The primary problem was fundraising. It rubbed people the wrong way, as cutting edge material often does. 'Aren't we over this? Can't we forget about this?' funders would say.

"And I would respond: 'your reaction tells me that we are not over it. If you look at the images on television, you'll find much the same as 100 years ago: singing, laughing, strutting, happy darkies entertaining America.'

"This role of being the clown needs to be communicated within the historical context. And then you need to examine what it tells us about America, particularly white America. And that blows people away."

Ethnic Notions' startling use of Black images to focus on "white fantasies, white perceptions, distortions and paranoia" is enhanced by its clinically detached tone. "Documentaries about racism tend to rail against racism, or show its heart-wrenching consequences. My intent was to look at America as some specimen beneath a glass, and say, 'look at this cancer. Let's dissect it, see what it is made of."

Riggs knows the technique works, and he doesn't need awards to prove it. "I've been in numerous screenings where people laugh at the beginning. They see the cartoon of the big Black mammy with the little coon at her breast. People giggle. But by the end of the film, people stop laughing. They get the point."

Ethnic Notions and *Tongues Untied* are vastly different works. *Ethnic Notions* is history as Riggs fell in love with it, "history as interpretation." *Tongues Untied* doesn't reexamine the past; it surveys the present, the living, breathing moment frozen in the amber of technology.

Tongues Untied began in 1986, when Black gay men first really found

their own voice with the publication of *In the Life*, edited by the late Joseph Beam of Philadelphia. In Washington, D.C., Essex Hemphill was writing poems of extraordinary immediacy and beauty. In New York, the Black gay collective Blackheart spawned the writers group, Other Countries. Across the country, similar Black gay men's groups sprang up.

Riggs was a regular at Oakland's Black Gay Men United. At readings and conferences, he met many of the leading figures of this "renaissance—or naisance" of Black gay literature: Joe Beam, Other Countries' Colin Robinson.

"I said, boy this is just amazing. I also realized I hungered for work visually. There was nothing, video-wise. I was tired of going to the gay and lesbian film festival and seeing nothing that touched my life directly."

an overall structure."

He found that structure in his own life. At *Tongues*' Los Angeles premiere, he said, "the hardest part was injecting myself into the film. I was trained not to put myself in the shot. But without a narrative thread there was no cohesiveness, just nice moments and interesting poems."

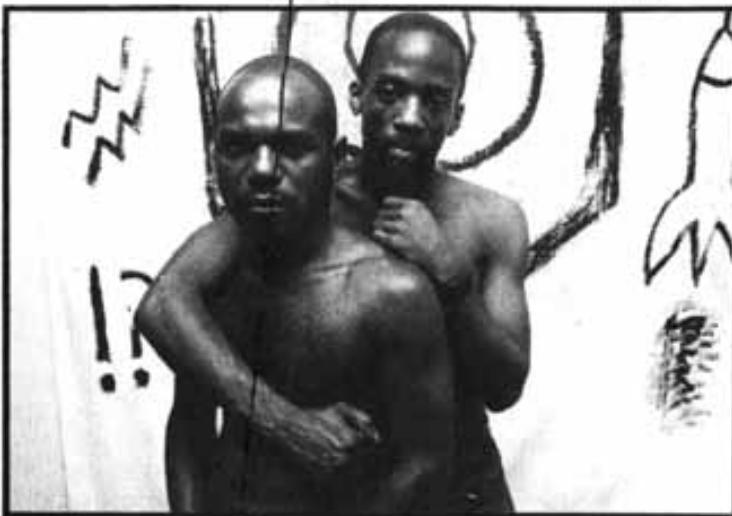
The personal aspect gives a poignancy to the film's more somber moments. Hate violence comes into the movie in the form of a mugging, and Riggs' voice says, "and a white boy came to my rescue." Racism emerges as Riggs walks the Castro and his voice talks about being a snow queen "immersed in vanilla"—and invisible. AIDS is introduced in a montage that starts with lovers embracing, Hemphill performing a poem: "Now we think/as we fuck/this nut/might kill us," while on the screen appear newspaper obituaries ending up with a shot of Riggs' face.

Riggs says learning he was HIV-positive made him realize that "there are things I can't take for granted any more. If I have the opportunity, the energy, the resources to do this; do it. There's no excuse."

Throughout, humor leavens *Tongues*' seriousness. It can be campy funny, as in describing Castro clones as "body by Nautilus, mind by Mattel." There is an absolutely uproarious dissertation on the "snap," followed by an equally hilarious demonstration of its use by dueling snap divas. And the Temptations will never sound quite the same after hearing a lavender R & B quartet perform their composition, "hey boy, can you come out tonight."

In *Tongues Untied*, Riggs has found that harmony he lost with adolescence. He's learned how to make people laugh, and not just be a clown. As he told the opening night audience in Los Angeles, "The lesson is, I'm going to do much more of this. I love it. There is a virtue in your own voice." ▼

Tongues Untied will be shown on video at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd St., on March 12. The film will have its theatrical debut in New York at the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival this spring.



Riggs (left) with poet Essex Hemphill

Photo: Ron Simmons

Tongues Untied, Riggs' portrait of his post-Civil Rights, post-Stonewall generation, began more casually than his carefully-scripted documentaries. "I just started shooting things." Riggs went to New York, shot an Other Countries workshop and dinner. He caught street queens voguing on the pier at the foot of Christopher Street. He took the footage back to Oakland and shamed his group into performing for him. He contacted Essex Hemphill and said, "Essex your work is so right, it speaks to so many issues of being Black and being gay. I would love for you to be part of this."

And then "a form and shape began to take place. I couldn't go on just shooting willy nilly; I had to organize, give it

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I SAW HIM
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OR AT *MARS*
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THURSDAYS
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FRIDAYS
Carmelita's

150 E 14 ST.

SUNDAYS
MARS NEEDS MEN

W. SIDE HWY & 13 ST.



He lays
Johnnie

Photo: Michael Wakefield

The makers of Johnny Walker scotch—who have consistently insisted that they are *absolutely not* trying to target the gay market—certainly had no idea what queer street artists would do to their suggestive ads so that the point couldn't possibly be misconstrued.

—M.S.

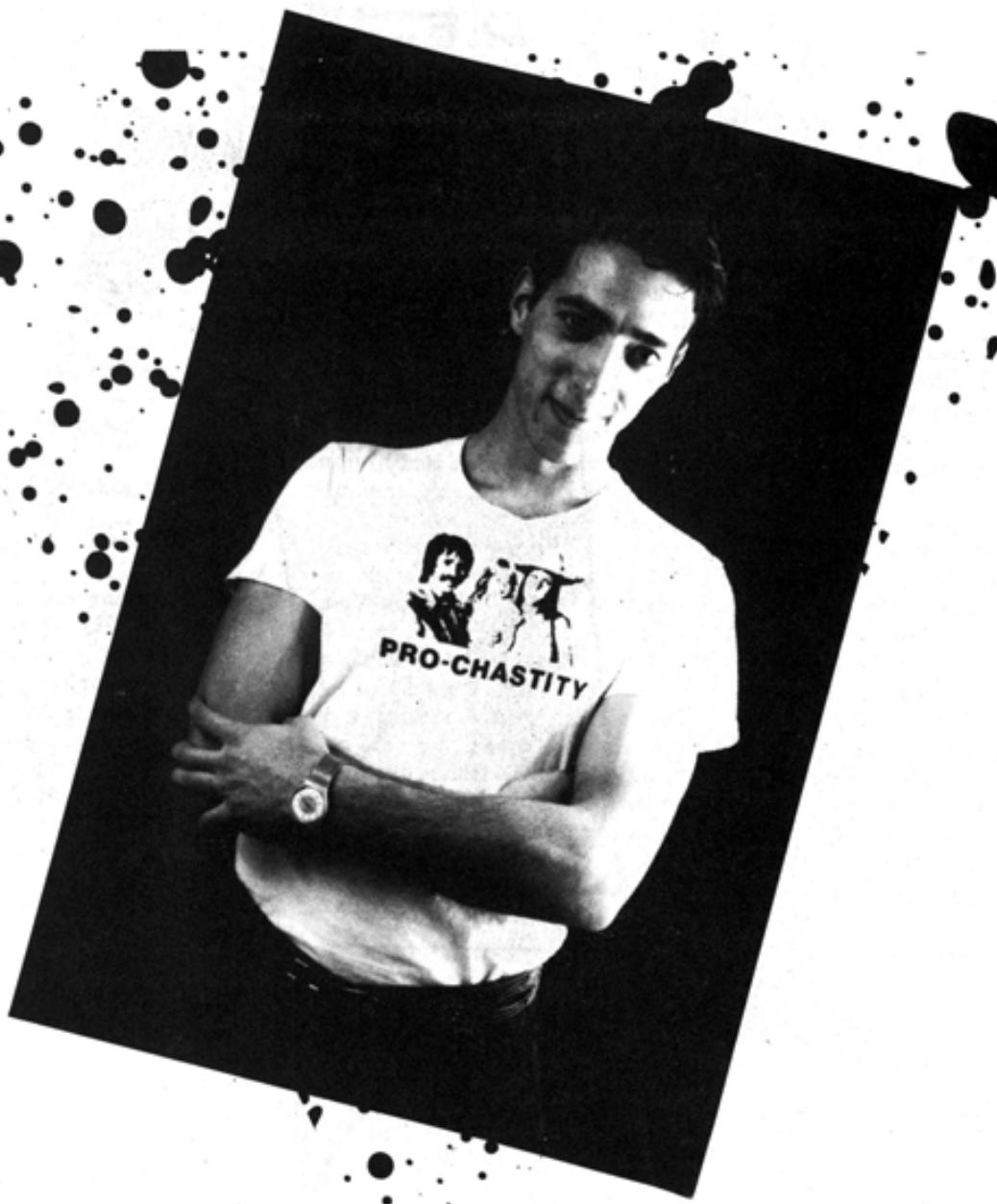


Photo: Michael Wakefield

"My friend Carey came up with the idea after the Cardinal once advocated being 'pro-chastity,'" says this week's page 51 boy, Michael (above), who's now selling the T-shirts he's created celebrating Chastity Bono's recent tabloid coming out party. Look for Michael at various nightclubs and ACT UP meetings if you'd like to purchase this spring's *de rigueur* queer fashion statement.

—M.S.



OUT OF MY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

Dear Mr. Ball:

When we agreed to serve as your panel of experts we were proud to participate in a bold, new publishing venture and we had high hopes that your column would function as a sorely-needed channel through which to disseminate valuable information to the community. We applauded the courageous and personally dangerous stands you dared to take against institutions of oppression such as the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States and the producers of *A Doll's Life*. We thrilled each time you defiantly proclaimed, "If they want to get rid of me they'll have to assassinate me."

Somewhat alarmed we watched you do battle with your editors but we assumed this struggle was necessary to maintain a free press. With mounting dismay we then saw you treat the box in the corner of this page as though it were your personal Sudetenland. But

last week you turned on us, your very own experts, and this position we find insupportable. Simply because we had what you call the nerve and what we call the spine to make recommendations you'd rather not (for whatever reasons) hear, you called for our collective resignation, publicly defamed us and threatened us with blackmail: surely the tools of a petty tyrant. Despite your undeniably admirable record, we must now question whether you are serving the community or, in fact, just serving yourself.

Well, Mr. Ball, you might find it unwise and uncomfortable to blackmail the people who know what *really* occurred on the Christmas of 1980 (yes, we've been in touch with a certain party-with-a-price now residing in Boca Raton). We will therefore not be so shamelessly coerced into resigning so that you may install the crew of devoted puppets we have refused to be. If any changes are going to be made around here, as you so omi-

nously stated last week, they will be coming from your quarter. You can start by getting us a coffee maker.

—The Experts

Dear Experts:

I don't understand what's happened to everybody. Where has everybody gone? Time and again I've sought your *paid* assistance with problems of deep and urgent concern to our readers and time and again you have merely made cautionary remarks about the effects of gin. At no time did I doubt the validity of these statements but when I did call to question their general applicability to the myriad, complex issues which this column must address, you accused me of abandoning *your* agenda and you cut off all communication. Rather than discuss this little disagreement in a mature, responsible and open-minded manner so that we all might reach an equitable solution, you have instead chosen to unleash this firestorm of monstrous allegations and ultimatums which will, undoubtedly, make any future discourse just that much more difficult. I am, of course, bewildered by such an unwarranted display of hostility but, more than anything, I am frustrated that you would take up not only your precious time and mine, but also that of our readers. By unfairly involving them in this, a dispute which is really none of their business, you are aggravating a potentially divisive situation and diverting inward our concerted, mutual struggle against a much bigger enemy. You think about that for a little while and when you're ready to act like human beings again you have your representative get in touch with me.

P.S. And you can forget all about that coffee maker. In case you've been so wrapped up in yourself to notice, we're due for some straightened times around here. If you need coffee, send the kid out for it. ▼

HOT BEARDING ACTION
Suddenly single, multiple-divorced, white female, 60-plus, seeks closeted gay male as escort. Have had much experience—several movie stars, millionaires. Me: sometime actress, part-time AIDS fund-raiser and full-time social legend; into pills, eating, drinking, binging, dieting, Betty Ford Clinic, pills, eating, drinking, binging, dieting, Betty Ford Clinic, pills, eating, drinking, binging, dieting, Betty Ford Clinic. I like quiet walks along the beach while on valium, watching old Liza Minelli flicks and wearing sequins to lunch. You: any age, but lots of money; into dinner parties, adventure, merry-making, gorgeous boys. Absolutely no romantic attachments. Fats, fems, drugs okay. No TVs. Reply to Box 8, Butterfield Station.



By Michelangelo Signorile

Taking a minute out from indulging herself with Ivana Trump, Liz Smith (*Daily News*) decided to jump into the Andy Rooney/CBS/*Advocate* controversy.

It's been quite a while since we've discussed Liz's rantings here. Though I haven't seen any real change in her column in general, the Rooney column was probably one of her more well-reasoned, well-thought-out columns in quite some time. Perhaps it was because she was tackling issues that Liz usually likes to stay away from: the gay kind. Still, though she seems to have collected her thoughts, there are many problems with her analysis of the Rooney affair, and reading it depresses me, making me think that it'll be a cold day in hell before Liz ever really sees the light at the end of the tunnel.

Rather than read the actual accounts of the Rooney controversy, Liz frighteningly seems to make up her own facts. She distorts the truth, ignores news reports of situations and omits pertinent information (Of course, what do we expect from a woman who slaps her own face on a newspaper cover next to the subject she is writing about?).

Thinking that she's somehow scored a behind-the-scenes scoop, Liz states: "This recent inci-

dent, wherein Andy insulted first gays; then, according to the gay magazine *The Advocate*, Blacks, had Rooney apologizing for the former, but denying doing the latter. CBS headman David Burke suspended Rooney for three months anyway."

If Liz read *OutWeek*—or even *Newsday* or her own paper—she would know that Rooney was not fired for his remarks per se, but for *insubordination*—for writing a letter of apology to *The Advocate* which was more insulting than the original remarks themselves and for mailing that letter after Burke told him not to. Oh no, but Liz doesn't even mention this letter or what the content of it was. She instead tells us how "the public majority wants

Andy back" and then defends his coming back, outlining freedom of speech issues. Ever-too-weak-of-spine to give her own opinion when it comes to civil liberties or any other ideas that might offend the conservative rich and powerful idiots whom she does cartwheels for, Liz says she finds "interesting" the comments of Peter Davis of *Newsday* who contends that it is more important for us to get the representation of gays, blacks, women and other minorities on television, rather than take other people off.

Well, I certainly agree, Liz. But you really confuse me and make me want to ask a zillion questions. I mean, couldn't you, who have your own slot on television and who have your own syndicated column, solve some of this visibility problem which you cite by simply...well... ACTING LIKE A LESBIAN YOURSELF?

And then, following your own—excuse me, Davis'—thoughts, shouldn't we, rather than ask Rooney back, simply ask CBS to fire him and replace him with a lesbian of color?

It baffles me that you would ask CBS to quickly bring back your own oppressor to continue his whipping. But it's this line of yours that really kills me: "On the issue of racism, I think we should accept the word of a 40-plus veteran journalist that he didn't say those things." Oh really, Liz? Just like we should have believed "40-plus veteran" Suzy (*New York Post*) that she really went to all those parties even though James Revson (*Newsday*) had revealed that she never attended them? Just like we should have believed you, another "40-plus veteran," when you told us a couple of weeks ago that publicist Harvey Mann died of a "brain tumor" when we all know he died of AIDS? No,

See GOSSIP WATCH on page 55



WILLIAM NORWICH

apparently more everyone abroad.

And what are people downtown talking about? Phone sex. Legislation proposed by Sen. Jesse Helms banning dial-a-titillation was passed generally unnoticed in November. If unchallenged, NYNEX will close down the phone sex industry on March 21. That may be good news, particularly to parents. But it comes as a blow to certain downtown liberal newspapers, especially the gay gazettes, whose major advertisers are phone sex companies. Without the ad money, these papers could fold, taking with them an important forum for political and social expression of the non-Jesse Helms type. You know, the hip, energetic young voices who can make this city hop in a way the establishment simply can't.

★★★

Gotham's earliest promise of spring
annual New York Flea Show

Out on the Town



by Liz Tracey and Sydney Pokorny

Liz: For some reason this week the vibes were all wrong. Everyone seemed to be either having car/taxi accidents, or fleeing oppressive interpersonal relationships. While there is every possibility that a moon phase may be to blame, I think it may have been the promise of spring thwarted, so heartlessly. While people were playing bumper cars to rush to the next site of (flog-me-until-I-have) fun, Sydney and I realized we had beaten ourselves long

time fun brought us to a very unexpected locale—Nell's. Tuesday night deejay **Johnny Dynell** and assorted children (a person who belongs to a House is called a child; I am not being mean) from assorted Houses, take over the basement, bringing something that seems foreign to Nell's—Real Fun. When we asked to take a few photos, Johnny rounded up the kids and we ended up with a plethora of well-dressed children posing and voguing. Thinking we were a real magazine, no expense was spared. One boy did a special light show. He flashed the booklight in the deejay booth on and off in synch with the beat, proving that great lighting effects don't have to cost millions. Rumor has it that there is a secret password, which, when uttered to the doormen admits you free of charge. We used the guest list.

Liz: We made a trip to Attitudes. The location is secret; we respect that. (Actually, we encourage it.) A predominantly gay after-hours club disguised as a sort-of-Carmelita's bordello with potted palms, cozy rooms with Seaman's furnishings, and a strange languidity among the upstairs guests. We stayed on the top floor, which has a very Quinn-Martin 1970s TV detective show bar feel to it; I kept waiting for Quincy or Buddy Ebsen and Lee Meriwether to come in, ask for a drink, scope

out the scene and pick up an informant for some information. While information-sharing didn't seem quite the purpose served here, we still kept wondering where the "action" was. (We're naive. You say after-hours, we say "action.") But, lo and behold, as Sydney tried to make her way past some larger-than-normal palms fronds, up the stairs to the "action," we found ourselves staring into the skylight, and a very bright one, I might add. We found no intrigue; we couldn't find a cab home, either.

Our never-ending search for night-



Photo: Michael Wakefield

enough when she accidentally slapped a woman in the face at Cave Canem Sunday night while fake voguing. We hope that spring picks up very soon, that we fall in love and/or lust with someone who feels the same way, and in the meanwhile, don't dance with Sydney.

Sydney: I can wait for spring and love/lust. I hate rain, it ruins my shoes and you can't even get a cab. To my mind, there is nothing more unappealing than a girl with spring fever.

Our never-ending search for night-

With Liz and Sydney

Saturday night we were foraging around the apartment for food, and as usual, came up empty. This is a product of the life we lead: We one three pans, the most recent edition being a frying pan that fits more than one fish fillet at a time. So, in the mood for a little weiner-schnitzel, we ended up at Rolf's, a vegetarian's nightmare in what we like to call Turtle Bay. As a German-American Restaurant, it was for some reason decorated for a children's Valentine's Day Party. Red and white beads, ribbons, three-dimensional hearts and stuffed polar bears hung from every square inch of ceiling. After thinking quite hard about it, not believing St. Valentine's to be a big German holiday, Sydney happened upon some distant memory of an Oktoberfest in February. A Februaryfest that had something to do with love, but wasn't really Saint Valentine's Day. She wasn't sure what it was called, because she stopped taking German pretty recently—I had stopped listening.

I had just seen the waitresses.

They were all strapping young women with sturdy calves, and large bosoms...for hundreds of years their ancestors had been tossing cows around Bavaria, and here they were. Wearing Lederhosen. I was happy. Our waitress approached. She stopped at our table and spoke. With an accent. I felt badly, staring at her so...I think she thought we were lightweights for not ordering beer. We ate our dinner, listening to the man across from us telling his friend how happy he was Andy Rooney was coming back (more staring on our part), and watched in admiration as our waitress walked around the restaurant, her thighs flexing. This was dinner the way it's meant to be.

Liz and Sydney: We are sorry that both Girl Bar and **Malcolm Forbes** have passed on—we will now be accepting letters from people who do not wish to be mentioned, since longevity doesn't seem to be a strong point for those who appear in this column. ▼

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Liz. The longer people are in power—especially if it's 40-plus years—the more they lie, steal and cheat. And the more they have to be watched. It's the nature of the game.

But you know all of this.

And yet, we now know that you know all of this. And you now know that we now know that you know all of this. Which is why I can't understand how in the name of goddess you think you can get away with anything.

I wish you'd simply look to your colleague, William Norwich (*Daily News*). It was only eight months ago when we were clobbering him over the head, printing his telephone number and having people call to tell him just what it was he might have unknowingly been doing that was hurting his own community. And with amazing speed and enthusiasm he has responded to those pleas on several occasions. The latest was last week when he wrote the statements we've highlighted in the center of this column regarding the telephone sex industry. It was *OutWeek* which broke that story on its cover. And it is *OutWeek* which Norwich is defending.

We have to recognize how much Norwich went out on a limb standing up for the right to masturbate over the telephone in a society column in the *Daily News*. It's extraordinary. And he has to be highly commended for it.

Liz, Billy didn't do this because he's afraid of us. (Who the hell are we, anyway?). He did this because he has a conscience. He did it because he realizes something that I just wish you could just try to come to terms with: WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER AND WE ALL HAVE TO DO AS MUCH AS WE FUCKING CAN. ▼

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OUT-
WEEK

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DeLeon thinks that with the backing of the mayor and the commissioners of the human rights agency, this change in law may well be put into effect.

Commenting on Dinkins' selection of openly gay people of color for two positions of symbolic and practical importance to the lesbian and gay community, Eyan Wolfson, a board member of Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and a lawyer at Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, said, "I'm very happy with Dinkins' appointment."

"I think the appointment of Billy Jones was a terrific appointment, and that is a very important bridge community," Wolfson continued. "We need to bridge to the gay people in the Latino community, and the non-gay people in the Latino community."

Out is Enough

But while DeLeon seems to be almost universally well respected, the fact that DeLeon has not made his sexual orientation a matter of public record in the past has led some activists in the lesbian and gay community to perceive a disturbing coincidence in Dinkins' two openly gay appointments. Mental Health Commissioner Jones, too, was criticized for what activists termed a lack of candor about his sexual orientation. In the wake of the controversy surrounding Dinkins' choice of Dr. Woodrow A. Myers Jr. for health commissioner, gay and lesbian suspicion of Dinkins' motives remains high.

"Dinkins is appointing people who are semi-closeted," charged one gay activist familiar with the Dinkins administration, who did not wish to be identified. He pointed out that the new Commissioner of Mental Health, Jones, "was not exactly open about being gay" before *The New York Times* publicly announced his sexuality in an article published the day following Jones' appointment.

"I think it's good that Dinkins is appointing openly gay people to positions," another activist, who has worked closely with DeLeon, said guardedly. "But I think appointing community activists would help ensure that the policies and concerns of our communities would be brought forward."

"I've never made a secret about it," DeLeon countered, explaining that his role as a gay man on the inside of city government has often offered him the opportunity to affect policy matters of interest to the lesbian and gay community. While he acknowledges that his active involvement with the lesbian and gay community has been somewhat limited, he points out that he is a member of Lambda, has attended ACT UP meetings "as an interested party" and, a bit bashfully, admits that he considers himself a gay activist.

"I did so many gay issues working for the city," he explained. "I tried to work on all the issues I cared about." When the closing of gay bathhouses was under discussion in the city, for example, he claimed, "I had more input, had more impact, because I wasn't a member of the [organized] groups."

"I think that people from the gay community who have worked with me would say that I have contributed to some things," DeLeon concluded with dignity. "And for everyone else, I hope that seeing me work for four years, they will come to consider me an activist."

The Underlying Issue

The issue underlying some gay activists' dissatisfaction with DeLeon's appointment seems to be lingering resentment over Dinkins' intransigence on the appointment of Woody Myers to head the department of health. Although gay, lesbian and AIDS activists strongly supported Dinkins over former Mayor Edward Koch, many felt betrayed by Dinkins when, despite the fact that serious accusations were leveled against Myers, Dinkins refused to back down from his choice of health commissioner. In late January, over the objections of prominent gay and AIDS activists, Dinkins named Myers as New York's new health commissioner. In his previous position as chief of Indiana's Department of Public Health, Myers favored mandatory HIV-testing, indefinite incarceration of people whom the department deemed to be engaging in unsafe sex, and was reportedly sluggish in obtaining funds for AIDS services.

So while many lesbian and gay activists have praised DeLeon's past work on behalf of the gay and lesbian

See GAY COMMISSIONER on page 56

Smith delivered a fiery call for Black gays to align themselves with anti-capitalist socialist movements. Others, such as San Francisco activist Brandy Moore, envision Black gays working within the established electoral political arena. Ways to bridge the gap between gay men and lesbians also figured prominently in conference discussions. There were lively debates between proponents of Christian and Afro-centric approaches to spiritual worship.

The most controversial decision of the conference was the dedication of the event to white gay AIDS activist Chris Brownlie, who died of AIDS last year and who was founder Phill Wilson's lover. According to *BLK* publisher Bell, "While nobody wanted to detract from Phill, many people thought the dedication was simply inappropriate." The final conference newsletter called the dedication "misguided."

Despite differences, there was a consensus on the Black gay community's fundamental objectives. African-American gay men and lesbians, Rev. McCoy preached, must come out. Black gays, she said, are dying "because we are scared that people are going to call us a sissy, a faggot, a bulldagger. Fact is, they've been talking about us that way all along. If they are going to call us names, let them call us that to our face in church or at the polls."

Coming out wasn't necessary just for healthy sexuality, she added. "It is time for us as gay people to deal with our own communities," McCoy said. "There is no way to build a healthy Black gay community without building a healthy Black community." Black gays shouldn't remain exiles, McCoy insisted: "It is time for us to go home." ▼

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included a roaming picket line that meandered through state offices.

Thirteen ACT UP demonstrators chained themselves to desks in the offices of the Division of the Budget; they were arrested and later released on bonds of \$500 each. A group from ACT UP/New York's housing committee donned "Mario Antoinette" drag — powdered wigs and bustled gowns — and threw cake crumbs at the closed, guarded doors of the governor's office.

Another lobbying effort was mounted by several minority AIDS advocacy groups at the annual weekend sponsored by the state legislature's Black and Puerto Rican Caucus in mid-February. The Minority Task Force's Johnson told *OurWeek* that lobbyists' requests had been well-received by many individual Black and Latino legislators. "But," he said, "the response has been slow."

A number of smaller, targeted lobbying events have been held or are scheduled for the coming weeks. The New York Citizens' AIDS Lobby is also sponsoring a letter-writing campaign in support of the NYAC budget agenda.

Since 1983, when funds for AIDS prevention, treatment and research were first specified in the budget, New York State has witnessed a 600 percent increase in the number of state dollars earmarked to fight the epidemic. The last seven years, however, also represented a period of strong economic growth for the state.

That growth has fallen off dramatically in recent months, and the state is facing deficits that will force cuts in many social-service and entitlement programs. The money crunch is likely to become much worse if the final phase of a state tax-cut law is not deferred or eliminated by the legislature during its current session. NYAC and affiliated groups are also pressuring state legislators to act to prevent the tax cut from taking effect.

The revenue shortfalls under which the state is now operating mean that social-service agencies are being forced into competition for a shrinking slice of the state budgetary pie. "The fear is that one issue will be pitted against another," says GMHC's Sweeney. He and other AIDS advocates hope to convince legislators that the magnitude of the AIDS crisis demands that it be given absolute budgetary priority.

They also hope to persuade senators and assembly members that adequate funding for community service providers is cost-effective in the long run, since the prevention education that CSPs supply will save millions of state Medicaid dollars in years to come.

As Buffalo's Ron Silverio said, "We're trying to convince [legislators] that they get the biggest bang for their buck when they use organizations like ours." ▼

GAY COMMISSIONER from page 55

community, including his work on the city's civil rights protections and his work with ACT UP's housing committee, many remain uncomfortable with what they perceive to be Dinkins' attempts to skirt a more serious commitment to lesbian and gay issues by making strategic appointments.

"The fact that Dinkins is appointing openly gay people is admirable, but that does not equate with giving the desires of the gay and lesbian community fair input into the operational decisions of the city," remarked Eric Sawyer, a spokesperson for the ACT UP subcommittee that deals with homelessness issues. "I think he is using the gays and lesbians on his staff as scapegoats for his refusal to implement policies that are more in line with our community."

Sawyer quickly pointed out, however, that his criticisms of Dinkins are in no way precipitated by Dinkins' appointment of DeLeon in particular. "I think [DeLeon] is the exception to the rule," Sawyer explained. "Dennis DeLeon is by far the most receptive, the most willing to listen to the ACT UP housing committee concerns with city housing proposals, and probably has a viewpoint most similar to what I think are the community's viewpoints on AIDS."

"I'm not going to criticize [DeLeon] because he worked on the inside rather than in a community organization," agreed Wolfson, pointing out that DeLeon's appointment provides both the gay and lesbian community and the Latino community with crucial access to a confidant of the new mayor. But, Wolfson added, alluding to the trust Dinkins broke with the Myers appointment, "I think Mayor Dinkins has to be judged in the next few months on the gay teachers' case, which is a top priority for our community, and health care issues, including AIDS issues."

Wolfson, and other activists, also noted that several appointments of crucial importance to the lesbian and gay community—including the top posts at the Human Resources Administration and the Health and Hospitals Corporation—have yet to be made, and DeLeon divulged that he knows of at least several openly gay people who are under consideration for appointment. ▼



Gay Cable Network

THURSDAYS

Pride & Progress

10:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gay Week in Review• Act-Up• GCN Close-Up• Sports• Lavender Health
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11:00 pm	<i>The Right Stuff</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naming Names• All About Women• Media Watch• Staying Out• Around the Country• Razor Sharp
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SUNDAYS

Men & Films

11:30 pm	Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars
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MONDAYS

Be My Guest

10:00 pm	Sybil Bruncheon hosts a panel game show with surprise guests. Secret Passions An original gay soap opera.
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Sweetest Birdfinger

by Otis Stuart

Richard Brooks' 1962 film version of the Tennessee Williams play *Sweet Bird of Youth*, recently released on videocassette by MGM/UA, synopsizes Williams' conveyer belt relationship with Hollywood, beginning with the box office clout that sets things in motion. Excepting *Camino Real*, Williams' plays from the era of his theatrical supremacy made it straight to the movies, and Williams paved a Hollywood track record with Oscars and big bucks. *Sweet Bird of Youth* was his sweetest deal: MGM

optioned the film rights for \$400,000 before the play was anywhere near Broadway. As consistent as the cash, Williams' battle royal with Hollywood censorship could not have asked for richer ground. Set on Easter Sunday, *Sweet Bird of Youth* involves incest, prostitution, drugs, venereal disease and castration.

In retrospect, what made it to the screen is perhaps Williams' last laugh. The film is gutted, but not, unfortunately, of the tripe. Although he had written one-acts that would evolve into *Sweet Bird of Youth* as much as nine years earlier, Williams completed the play during the era of his serious drug

and alcohol dependency. The imagery is reeling, its size hallucinatory. The play is all broad strokes, and, even worse, the film does its damndest to sanitize them. The incest was dropped before Broadway and Brooks got around the more clinical complications of gonorrhea and gelding, although the studio promised an optional ending that he was never allowed to film. But censorship held to the fixations of the era, among them one that *Sweet Bird of Youth* stroked only peripherally: no homos. In the play, callboy Chance's record of sale is ambiguous on the pronouns.

In fact, *Night of the Iguana*, two



WHEN MONSTERS MEET—Paul Newman and Geraldine Page in *Sweet Bird of Youth*

years after *Sweet Bird*, was the first Williams film released after the relaxation of the motion picture code made his central subjects, such as homosexuality, into plausible film material. *Baby Doll*'s scandalous success in the mid-50s—the Catholic Church wanted to burn the negatives—helped break the code's hold, but even that film's focus was heterosexual, however exotically so, and no challenge to the missionary position forced onto Williams' exploration of human sexuality. Forget all reference to the homosexual catalyst in the films of *Streetcar Named Desire* or *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. In the former, we can hear that Blanche's young husband killed himself by going down on a revolver but not that the act was precipitated by his discovery in the sack with "an older gentleman he had known for many years." (But we can also hear that even Stanley Kowalski has his fey streak. One retort to "Stellah"—"What is this sister of yours? A deep sea diver?"—would work arms akimbo.) In Brooks' film of *Cat*, the only hint at Brick's real problem is his unrelieved harping on wife Maggie's failed coupling with best buddy Skipper: the lad protesteth that much. *Suddenly, Last Summer*, as Vito Russo points out in *The Celluloid Closet*, is the apotheosis of Hollywood's invisible homosexual era: we never see Sebastian Venable. In the press predating its release, the most titillating facet of a film involving, among other eccentricities, a mother procuring for her son who is later eaten alive, was Elizabeth Taylor in a white bathing suit wet to the point of nudity.

Obviously, the code's fixations were as pronounced as Elizabeth Taylor's breasts. The heroine was their comeuppance. Hollywood and its public were so determined not to see some things that they did not see what Williams actually set before them. Willful blindness is the only explanation for a monster as gloriously unregenerate as Princess Kosmonopolis—Alexandra del Lago, "artist and star." She recites her creed as a prelude to seduction: "When monster meets monster, one monster has to give way. And it will never be me."

Completely irrelevant to the narrative—she's the baggage the returning



PLOTTING REVENGE—Tennessee Williams at his desk in Key West

Photo: Don Pinder, Key West

hero has in tow—Alexandra is an aging actress awash in booze, drugs and beach boys. She is not only the world's greatest aside but, like Serafina in *The Rose Tattoo*, a Williams heroine who fully upstages her play. The sources of the role are disputed. Williams was befriended by an alcoholic actress during his down-and-out days in the early 40s. He was working on *Sweet Bird* during Tallulah Bankhead's assault on *Streetcar*—after one famous row Williams knelt in apology—and Williams' personal and professional obsessions of the period line up with Alexandra's. His anticipation of the *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* Broadway opening matched Alexandra's panic over her failed comeback. A man who knew how to work an actress, Williams also told Margaret Leighton that he'd written the part for her.

Alexandra summarizes all the fears inspired by Williams' work. By embodying them in a sexually viable woman—the image Hollywood never questioned—Williams beat American strictures at their own game. (And his own—Alexandra is his first non-Southern heroine.) Alexandra got past the censors, and she is Amanda Wingfield's nightmare incarnate. Over the course of his career, Williams' women progress to autonomy, and

Alexandra is Williams' penultimate statement on the concept that broke Blanche du Bois—a self-sufficient female. Challenged to face herself in a mirror, Alexandra answers in the affirmative: "I see me." In the process to independence, the gossamer side of the Williams woman lost out entirely. Alexandra is pure appetite: "I don't remember your face but your hands are familiar." For all intents and certainly for all practical purposes, she is a man and was a man, Artemis Parmezoglo, in the series of sketches that evolved into the first act of *Sweet Bird*. As a woman, she is Williams' sweetest birdfinger to male dominance.

Alexandra's accessibility to actresses of a certain age is perhaps a reason why recent performances have obscured the legacy of the original. (And maybe one day Elizabeth Taylor will get another shot, this time at the role as Williams wrote it.) Many names were bandied about during preproduction. Marlene Dietrich and Bette Davis were among them, although Claire Trevor seems to have been the most serious contender. Instead, the choice went against type, violently. Even Geraldine Page thought Geraldine Page was wrong. Glamour wasn't her game, and she'd

See *SWEET BIRD* on page 68



RUNNING SCARED—Patti Smith in Robert Mapplethorpe's *Still Moving*

Photo: The Estate of Robert Mapplethorpe

Dancing Snapshots

Moving Pictures: Films by Photographers. Selected by Tom Smith. The Public Theater. March 9-22.

by Robert Hilferty

Cinema is a strange animal. As the "seventh art," the cinema has been influenced by and compared to its predecessors, giving theorists ontological headaches for nearly a century. Like theater, it may have actors. Like the novel, it may be narrative. Like painting, it composes itself within a frame. Like music, it structures time. Like architecture, it structures space. Like dance, it moves. But it is with photography that cinema shares something special that it does not share with the others: a camera. This camera allows the photographer and filmmaker to reproduce the world in a way which satisfies our obsession for realism. Even the illusions indigenous to each art seem more real in

photography and cinema.

"Moving Pictures: Films by Photographers" is the first traveling exhibition to examine the impact of the photographer's eye on the art of cinema. The Public Theater will present 41 films, selected by Tom Smith, spanning the 100-year history of cinema, from the pioneering works of the Lumière brothers to the recent films of Robert Frank and Bruce Weber. The screening should prove to be provocative and encourage the viewer to make connections between the twin identities of each artist.

Certain photographers are in love with forms, others with people, some both. Harry Callahan, known for the dreamy, superimpositions in his photography, carries out similar experiments in his photography, carries out similar experiments in his only completed film *Motions* (1947). The motion of sea waves, like the undulating mutations of fire, has always been "cinematic" even before the birth of cinema, and Callahan loves overlaying his black-and-white urban scenes of passing automobiles with these watery ripples. In *Le Retour à la Raison* (1923), Man Ray employs negative images and "rayograms" which are images formed by placing objects like nails and springs, directly on the photographic surface. Female torsos and spinning Dada sculptures are interlaced rhythmically expressing Ray's love of rotating harmonic forms.

Photographers Helen Levitt, Janice Loeb and James Agee collaborated to make *In the Street* (1952), a loving look at small children in Spanish Harlem playing and fighting in the streets. Human behavior is fascinating to behold and the spontaneity captured by the makers' hidden camera is as disarming as it is entertaining. Rudy Burkhardt's *Under the Brooklyn Bridge* (1953), another exquisite black-and-white documentary, starts off with empty streets and warehouses but is soon peopled with workmen tearing down buildings. What steals the show, though, is the extraordinary sequence of young boys bathing nude underneath the bridge. Diving, splashing and swimming, these boys engage us in a sensuous pastoral scene against the backdrop of steel and concrete.

Primarily known for his candid tabloid black-and-whites, Weegee made a voluptuous color film called *Weegee's New York*. Rainbow filters give New York a psychedelic look in the film's first half, accompanied by

See SNAPSHOTS on page 68

Film

Sourbaby

Rosalie Goes Shopping. Directed by Percy Adlon. Produced by Percy and Eleonore Adlon. Written by Percy and Eleonore Adlon and Christopher Doherty.

by Bruce C. Steele

Sugarbaby (1984) and *Bagdad Cafe* (1987), director Percy Adlon's last two movies, conjured up magical, seductive worlds that existed beyond the fringes of "normality." Strong, quirky, magnetic people struggled to free themselves from conformity and prejudice, and triumphed (to varying degrees) through the sheer force of their need to be different, to be accepted as themselves, to be loved unconditionally. Adlon's aggressively eccentric stylization—odd camera angles, unnatural infusions of color, unmotivated camera moves—was striking and entirely appropriate, a visual manifesto in delightful collusion with the unorthodox narratives.

Sugarbaby seduced the audience as completely as its rotund lead character (played by Marianne Saegebrecht) seduced her handsome, pliant subway motorman. Then Adlon shattered the idyll with a brutal intrusion of conventional society. The film ended on an unforgettable and enticingly ambiguous image that suggested perseverance against repression. In the last minutes of *Bagdad Cafe*, the patchwork community of outcasts—led by a Black woman and an obese German hausfrau (Saegebrecht)—found a niche in the mainstream. The highly sentimental ending was perhaps less powerful than the socko finale of *Sugarbaby*, but it was certainly a satisfying vindication of the Other.

But Adlon has faltered tremendously with *Rosalie Goes Shopping*, a movie that is neither seductive nor ambiguous nor satisfying. The previous two films were provocative and entertaining; *Rosalie* is commonplace and dull, as if by design. It's like a parody of an Adlon film, the offbeat characters reduced to stupid caricature, the distinctive style stripped of both poetry and utility.

The central figure, Rosalie, is again played by the marvelous Ms. Saegebrecht, but this time she's immersed in society, battling to preserve convention rather than to reshape it. Rosalie is the German wife of a moronic Arkansas pilot (Brad Davis) and the mother of seven spoiled children ranging from a pair of surreal, near-catatonic twin girls to two obnoxious teenagers who seem transplanted from a John Hughes film.

Rosalie herself is a ridiculously exaggerated symbol of credit-fed American consumerism. She juggles dozens of credit cards, aliases and bank accounts and pile up hundreds of thousands in past-due debt in an endless flurry of

tasteless conspicuous consumption. Adlon's anti-materialistic point is made and grows tiresome within the movie's first few scenes.

Questions of plausibility, suppressed in the earlier films by the coherence of Adlon's alternative universes, here eat away at the storyline. We have to assume no one stops Rosalie because everyone else is simply too dumb, and the predominance of idiocy quickly becomes uncomfortable. The plot is limp and uninvolving. Rosalie's *modus operandi* is well-established from the start, so there's no real development, no joy of discovery. Her latest scheme to escape exposure—the script's weak excuse for a conflict—is mechanical and thematically redundant.

Adlon should never have attempted to assail society from the inside—his distrust and alienation from dominant



OII WHAT A MESS.—Director Percy Adlon flanked by Judge Reinhold and Marianne Saegebrecht.

value systems runs too deep. The flipside of his intuitive understanding of social pariahs is a complete inability to breathe even comic life into more traditional characters. Saegebrecht is skillful enough to make Rosalie likeable, but not credible. The other performers are simply helpless, their characterizations as thin and monotonous as the script. Judge Reinhold is stuck in a particularly awkward and half-baked role as the rural priest to whom Rosalie confesses her fiscal crimes (thus absolving her guilt).

Humor, integral to the charming incongruity of the other movies, is here forced, cheap or, at best, fleeting. Laughter is replaced by sighs and groans. And those who have in the past labeled Adlon's audacious style merely distracting now have just complaint. Here, the intrusiveness of the pink-filtered skies and other weird cinematography doesn't connect with the material; the visual effects are jarring, but the content is simple-minded. ▼

Theater

Lions and Tigers and Bears

Crowbar. A play by Mac Wellman. Music by David Van Tieghem. Directed by Richard Caliban. Victory Theater. 209 W. 42nd St. 279-4200. Through March 11.

by Joe E. Jeffreys

Pataphysical compilation," "a theatrical fruit-basket turn-over of improbabilities, coincidences, empty chronicles, bizarre occasions of false remembering and implacable forgetfulness," and "a ghost story" are phrases author Mac Wellman employs to describe his play *Crowbar*. The play's chorus arrives at the core more succinctly, "All theaters are haunted."

Crowbar exercises the ghosts of the Victory Theater, Time Square's oldest existing theater company. The play's text is adapted from newspaper obituaries, fire reports and articles centering around the 28th of September 1900. On this date the building opened under the management of Oscar Hammerstein as the Theater Republic with a production of James A. Hearn's *Sag Harbor*. *Crowbar* occurs during *Sag Harbor's* intermission—an intermission hypothetically lasting from *Crowbar's* start to finish—a period of 90 years. The chorus' words again become all important, "Time is empty air."

Crowbar is a historical pageant *cum son et lumière*. The straight forward dramaturgy of pageants is experimented with by Wellman to arresting but confusing results. The obituary reports, occupying the play's first structural section, obstruct the play's primary objective—the telling of the theater's story. While adding flavor to the text and extending the world of the stage out into the world itself, the facts and myths of the theater being told in the theater itself are where *Crowbar* shines. Houdini performed on the very stage which the audience sits (the play being performed throughout the theater's



LACEY DAYS—Elzbieta Czyzewska in *Crowbar*

Photo: Tom Brazil

house), an artificial lake is under the same stage, Lionel Barrymore and Lilian Gish played the stage in *Abie's Irish Rose*, David Belasco worked out techniques of realism on it changing the history of American theater history. During these moments, the site specificity of *Crowbar* is so strongly foregrounded as to send meta-theatrical shivers down the spine. The presence of the Victory's ghosts can be felt, almost seen.

David Tan Tieghem's music and Richard Caliban's direction completely explore the nature of the performance. Van Tieghem transforms the theater into his instrument. He beats the theater's seats, bangs on the pipes, stomps the floor and runs bowls along its walls. He plays the theater like one big drum set. His eerie, haunting percussive music is site-sonic.

Caliban's direction explores all nooks and corners. Through the assis-

tance of lighting designer Brian Aldous, he is able to frame scenes and provide perspectives striking in their composition. The balconies, stairs, house and aisles are all co-opted as playing areas. Caliban also introduces subtle visual echoes of the text. The character of Mr. Rioso, portrayed by Reg. E. Cathey, who we later learn was killed in the theater when a crowbar fell from the roof garden striking him on the head, enters the play's action suspended from a rope high in the fly space.

While Aldous' lighting design meticulously lights the selected playing areas, it rarely exploits the theater itself. The theater is the protagonist of *Crowbar* and should be treated as such beyond the mere illuminating of its dome.

The acting throughout is strong. The chorus of 20 provide a good deal of humor and manage to make their chants intelligible no matter where they are reciting from. Elzbieta Czyzewska also provides humor and sparkle to her role of First Woman. Yusef Bulos,

as the much anticipated ghost of David Belasco, portrays the mega-theatrical figure with strength and dignity. The Victory, a.k.a. Theater Republic and Belasco Theater, graciously portrays itself while allowing a minute inspection of its glory and demise never once losing its stateliness.

Crowbar creates a strong fascination. Its site-specific nature, though not completely or clearly explored, grips the imagination. Much has changed on 42nd Street since the opening of *Sag Harbor* and the Victory Theater has witnessed it all while playing a key role in, beyond and through it. The America outside its doors today would be unrecognizable to those attending the opening night of *Sag Harbor* in 1900. All theaters are haunted and ephemeral. Go see *Crowbar* before it becomes yet another of the Victory's theater ghosts. ▼

Theater Gristly

American Fat. Written by Winchester Chimes. Directed by Winchester Chimes and Tom Burnett. The Cooper Square Theater. 50 E. 7th St. March 9-10 at 10 pm.

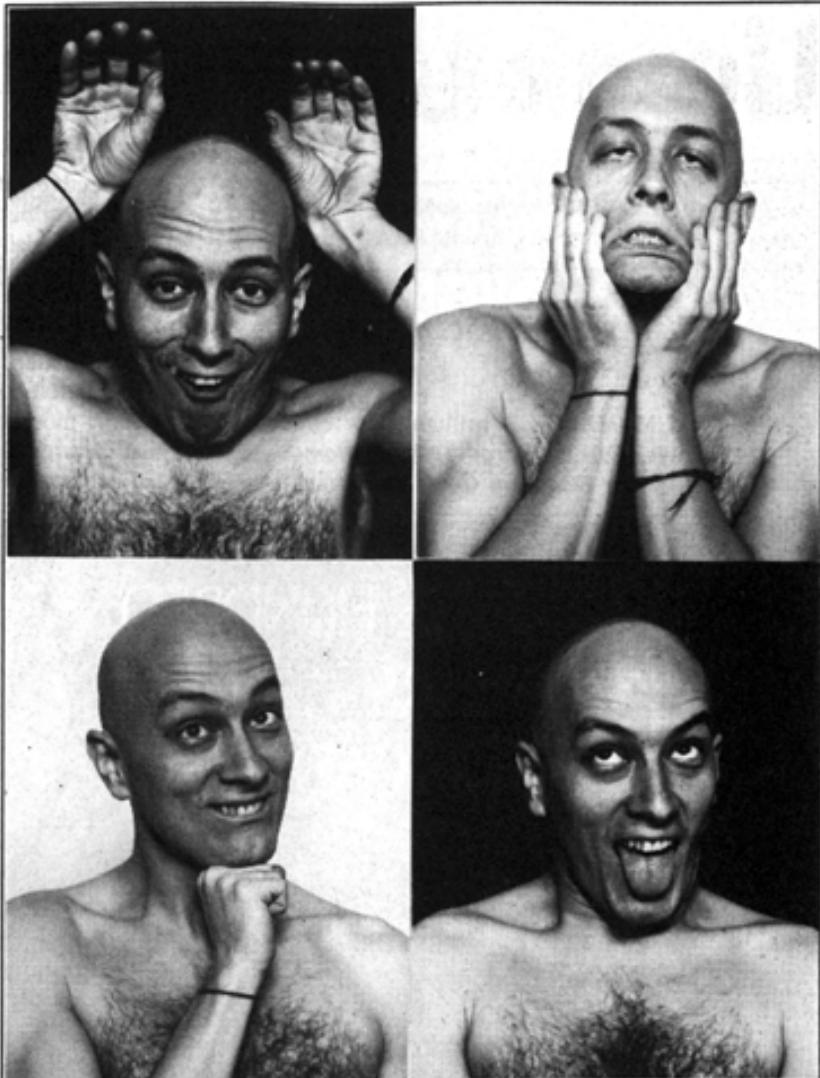
by Rick Sugden

From the first "Merdel" that spit forth from the mouth of Alfred Jarry's alter ego, *Père Ubu*, a theater of infantile subversion has held the promise of a social revolution. Seeing the state and the family as one and the same, Jarry and the Dadaists and Surrealists that followed him created art that bypassed the death grip of these institutions. This has been the desperate revolt of the modernists, and it is being valiantly fought by Winchester Chimes in his current production.

American Fat is a series of scenes from the de-evolution of the human comedy. A raucous mix of Joe Ortonish, post-Wilde comedy of manners and a punk rocker's gob in the face, Chimes stands somewhere between poetry and provocation. "I'm just a theater-goer," says an "audience member" unwillingly drawn into the drama. "I'm as bourgeois as a miniature horse."

The understanding of language, not as passive vehicle of communication, but as a double agent in the war of dominion has lead radical poets and writers to subvert language, either as a method of social revolt or as a sublimation of their anger. The state seems impervious, but I can dismantle language. For Winchester Chimes, this can mean having two men at a cafe order a lunch of "total enlightenment and an end to all government that does not truly serve its people" or it can mean farting in the teacher's face of the one true class left in America: the Gross Class.

As in imbeciles, fool and clowns, the infantile has been a part of theatrical



THE GLAMOROUS LIFE.
Matthew Courtney as Wackzernoyd

satire from the Greeks on. Chimes sees something in the anarchism of children's rebellion against familial rules that makes us want to cherish childhood as a social subversion. The possibility remains, though, that by adopting this stance, the transgressor helps to maintain this parent-child power relationship. Sharp satire can enlighten us, but farting in the face of a soldier holding a rifle is nothing but a dangerous prank. Yet, it is invigorating to join Chimes in giving the finger to a social structure that "has turned the earth into one huge bank, shopping mall and prison."

This poetic provocation is best when Chimes works his surrealistic word play. An androgynous New Ager

identifies himself: "Oh, babycakes, I'm Western civilization on two legs. Got any rat poison?" A father explains to an inquisitive child that air-rights are where middle management sleeps. In a society that survives on the energy zombies, having an enlarged liver is the best revenge. A political rally to fight for the right to raise money for the right to have rights. Or the eye-opener that comes when you have bitten into a Western omelet only to find that it is filled with Spiro Agnew's diarrhea, not the usual potatoes, onions and green peppers.

Delivering this kind of multi-dimensional dialogue can be difficult

See **GRISTLY** on page 68

Greek Love

One Hundred Years of Homosexuality and Other Essays on Greek Love. David M. Halperin. Routledge. 230 pp.

by Michael Schwarz

David M. Halperin's brilliant new collection of essays, *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality and Other Essays on Greek Love*, takes a radical

perspective on the matter of sexual classification. In a major contribution to the debate over whether homosexuality is a socially constructed concept or a timeless descriptive category, Halperin argues (among other things): 1) that "homosexuality" and "heterosexuality" represent two poles in a single symbolic system; 2) that the concept of "homosexuality" did not exist in the English-speaking world before 1892; 3) that sexual object choice is not necessarily more significant than dietary object choice; and 4) that cultures such as ancient Greece viewed same sex sexual contact in ways which have little if anything to do with concepts of sexuality, gender or sexual object choice as we currently understand them. *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality* is the single most important contribution to the interpretation of gay history in nearly a decade.

In these six essays written in the course of several years, Halperin, a Professor of Literature at MIT, ranges freely between ideas about "Greek love" in classical Athens and modern ways of conceptualizing sex, sexuality and homosexuality. In the volume's title essay, named in honor of the 100th anniversary of the introduction of the word "homo-sexuality" into English, Halperin develops the thesis that "homosexuality and heterosexuality, as we currently understand them, are modern, Western, bourgeois productions."

He makes this point by arguing that most non-western and pre-modern cultures organize sexual meanings around social and cultural factors which have little to do with a narrowly drawn idea of sexual object choice. Thus Greek citizens could assume an insertive sexual role with women, non-citizen boys, slaves and prostitutes without thinking of their assignations with other males as being especially significant; elder males, of course, needed to be heedful of the dignity of male citizen youths, with whom sexual penetration was considered a violation of status; but they also needed to be careful around citizen women, who were considered reproductive chattel protected by the state. However one looks at it, ancient Greek rules about sex have more to do with the hierarchical structure of the Greek *polis* than with

THE
NEW
ANCIENT
WORLD

NE HUNDRED
YEARS of
HOMOSEXUALITY

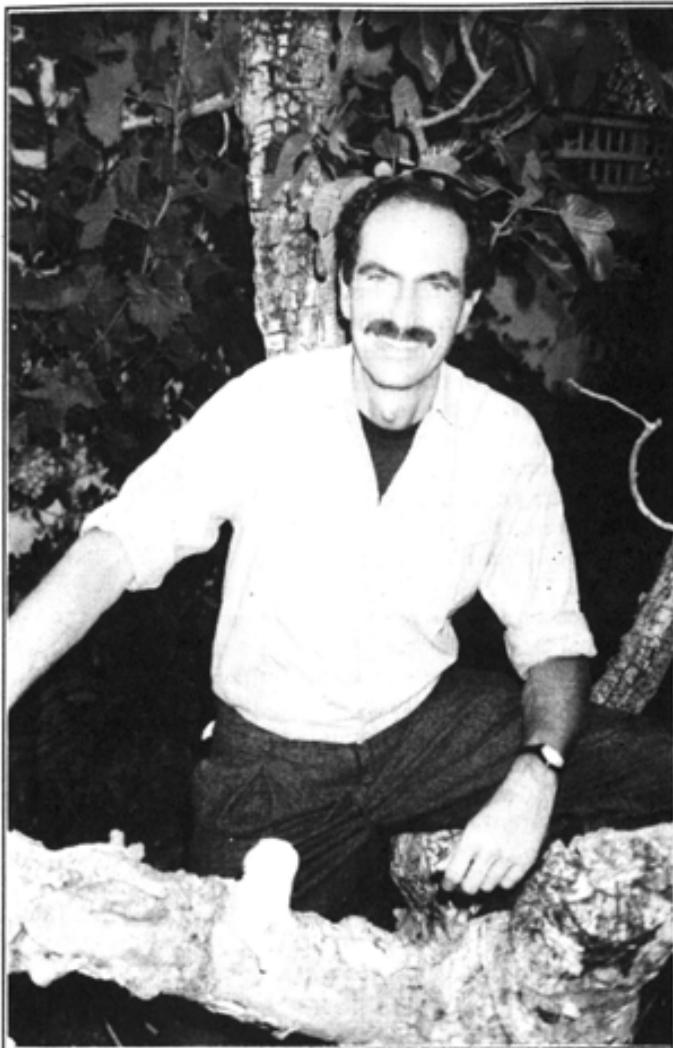
AND OTHER ESSAYS ON GREEK LOVE

sexual object choice as we currently understand it. Like the New Guinea "tribesman and warrior who from the ages of eight to 15 has been orally inseminated on a daily basis by older youths and who, after years of orally inseminating his juniors, will be married to an adult women and have children of his own," Greek men who engaged in sex with boys cannot be thought of as "homosexual," in anything like the modern definition of the term.

Greek men did not make lifelong commitments to sexual relations with men or women; but this did not mean that Greek men were "bisexual" either. Simply put, whether one chose to have sex with an ephebe (a young man between puberty and the onset of the beard) or an adult woman was no more significant in and of itself than choosing to eat chicken over beef. What was crucially important in the Greek context was that the sexual roles assumed by the participants correspond to the status categories of Greek society. Men could fuck boys and citizens could fuck non-citizens; but the reverse was unthinkable. Boys, it was assumed, did not experience "sexual" pleasure with their lovers; this was the province of the inserter. Also adult men never penetrated other adult men, since this was considered a challenge to their "masculinity." The question of taste (in relation to gender as with other things) was questionably an important one; but it would have seemed absurd to attempt to "explain" or "cure" a sexual taste for boys or prostitutes, especially when the more important political realities were so easy to discern. To think of both partners in a pederastic relationship as being a single kind of "homosexual," Halperin observes, "would have struck a classical Athenian as no less bizarre than to classify a burglar as an 'active criminal,' his victim as the 'passive criminal' and the two of them alike as 'partners in crime.'"

In his second and third essays, "Homosexuality: A Cultural Construct" and "Two Views of Greek Love: Harold Patzer and Michel Foucault," Halperin addresses himself to the theoretical issues raised by his analysis of the sexual life and categories of Ancient Greece. Halperin effectively demolishes the argument put forward by John Boswell that "homosexuality" is a universal historical fact, instead arguing for an interpretive and historically contingent view of sexual meaning. Just because "many societies contact with members of their own sex" does not mean that homosexuality is universal, either as a form of behavior or as a category. Indeed, "redescribing same-sex sexual contact as homosexuality effectively obliterates the many different ways of organizing sexual contacts and articulating sexual roles that are indigenous to human societies—as if one were to claim that, because feudal peasants work with their hands and factory laborers work with their hands, feudal peasantry was the form that factory labor took before the rise of industrial capitalism."

These essays, including a remarkable piece on Democracy and the social status of male prostitution, are consistently surprising, brilliant and entertaining. If I have



Author David M. Halperin

any criticism, it is that Halperin did not go far enough in his exploration of gender and its relationship to the symbolic structure of Greek culture and society. (Others, for example, have argued that the concept of gender is itself a historical construct.) But this is a minor issue. This is a profound and inspired book. Like his philosophical forbearer Foucault, Halperin uncovers new possibilities beneath the edifice of our current sexual categories. As Halperin eloquently puts it, "if there is indeed a way to free ourselves from the conceptual tyranny of current sexual categories, it lies not in an attempt simply to do away with these categories by means of a methodological sleight of hand but in an effort to understand them better as historically conditioned cultural representations—or, to be exact as instances of an ideology which we not only fashion but also inhabit."

That he is able to do this—to elucidate modern sexual concepts and categories while at the same time remaining true to the "otherness" of the sexual culture of ancient Greece, is nothing short of remarkable. It's by far the best book I've read this year. And, part of the profits are going to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. ▼

Rocking the Gay Nerve

by Zecca

I have never felt that, just because I'm gay, I have an obligation to be a sissy...or love tea-dances, or dress like it's still the 1970s, or do anything "officially," recognizably gay. I am not a gay cliché, and I shouldn't have to be one to be accepted by my fellow homosexuals.

Growing up in the Post-Gay-Lib 70s, I always believed that we can be anything we want to be, from transsexuals to "straight" film idols. "We are everywhere," and everything. Yet, on Gay Pride Day, I overheard an original Stonewaller carping that several of the day's performers should not have been allowed on stage because what they were doing wasn't "gay enough." They were playing Rock and Roll.

Truthfully, most bands that back openly gay artists are a blend of straight and gay musicians who couldn't care less about each others' sexual orientation. Smacks of liberation to me. To say that these artists should be banned from Gay Pride Day is like telling Lena Horne she can't sing at an NAACP convention because she isn't dark enough. Who's prejudiced now?

The enormous success of Dean Johnson's Rock and Roll Fag Bar (at the Pyramid, NYC) with gays under 40 has remained undetected by the media. Drawing over 1,600 men and women per night during its heyday at The World, especially from the new generation of young men who prefer the *East* Village and were in school in the 70s, Fag Bar became the largest weekly event in gay New York. But as Dean Johnson puts it, "Gay media cover whatever the record companies are promoting," instead of listening to and representing gays themselves.

What's worse, as Johnson once told me, "There couldn't possibly be a more homophobic industry than the American recording industry." This is certainly obvious in the American avoidance of successful, openly gay European artists like the Tom Robinson Band (R'n'R), The Smiths and the solo work by their lead singer Morrissey (Art Rock), and Paul Zone's Man Two Man (Dance Music). Each of these acts has had top ten singles in England. Yet our gay media has done almost nothing to expose Americans to these artists who sing openly about same-sex love. And local, unsigned artists have been totally ignored regardless of their popularity.

In the four short years since his arrival from Germany,



I AM NOT A GAY CLICHÉ—Gay rocker Cha Cha Fernandez Photo: Ruth Kluchinik

Wolfgang Busch has become New York's number one promoter of the bands of tomorrow. His syndicated cable program *New York, New Rock*, with its accompanying tip sheets and projected magazine *Demo*, along with his New York, New Rock concerts, have done far more than the homophobic New Music Seminar to uncover original, local talent. Openly gay in a field notorious for bullying machismo, Busch has achieved a major coup in being responsible for the signing of local act *Carboy* to MCA Records. The straights in the business love both him and his work, but have you ever heard of him in the gay press? Guess.

On Gay Pride Day, 1987, Pat diLillo and I produced a live concert of gay artists on Washington Street, next to the Archives Building, originally with the blessing and support of the Christopher Street Festival Committee. Once it was clear that only half of our show would be drag and cabaret, with the other half devoted to live bands, we encountered constant and abusive resistance from the more biased members of the committee, who went so far as to remove 50 percent of our P.A. system so that prerecorded disco could be blasted from the roof of Badlands to compete with the Dance on the Pier (sponsored by their arch-rival, *Heritage of Pride*). Starring such popular performers as

See **ROCKING** on page 68

MAN TO MAN



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ROCKING from page 68

Diane Ponzio, Zette, Michael Musto, Brian (Tish Gervais) Neal, Dean (Johnson) and the Weenies, and headlined by the electrifying Cha Cha Fernandez and the Slumlords, the show drew and held such large numbers that it was immediately scrapped for the following year by the late (and absurdly canonized) Ed Murphy, before it was even over. Yet, all but one of these artists were drawing packed houses at the Limelight on nights produced by Wolfgang Busch or his predecessor, Bobby Bradley.

These days, when gays swallow with open throats even the most obscenely sexist hetero-discs from the hetero-disco assembly line, the rising popularity of our Rock and Rollers with gay and straight audiences alike is something we *should* be proud of. Why the gay media doesn't think so is simply beyond me. The numbers speak for themselves; too bad our media doesn't speak for us. ▼

SNAPSHOTS from page 68

Leonard Bernstein's jazzy cityscape poundings on the soundtrack. Coney Island, Weegee's inescapable subject in photography, dominates the second half, complete with fatties, cuties, uglies, oldies, beauties, necking couples and burgeoning erections (just look in the right places).

Coney Island is also the main setting of *The Little Fugitive* (1953) by the trio Morris Engel, Ruth Orkin and Ray Ashley. Hailed by Truffaut as the one film responsible for the French New Wave, this charming low-budget feature follows the adventures of its little hero, Joey, who has escaped to Coney Island believing he has killed his brother. This little cowboy is funny and resourceful, and you will never forget his adorable pouting.

One of my favorites is Brassai's *Lovers and Clowns* (1955). As a photographer, the Hungarian-born Brassai documented Parisian nightlife; but in his only film he uncharacteristically reveals himself to be a zoological humorist. These giraffes, bears, lions and monkeys will keep you in stitches from beginning to end, especially during those moments they are most human. Long-limbed, tree-swinging chimps provide the film with a flying trapeze act that outdoes anything

I've seen at Barnum and Bailey.

Henri Cartier-Bresson's *Le Retour* (1945) is a disappointing, run-of-the-mill documentary about French prisoners-of-war. But William Wegman and Robert Breer's *Blue Monday* (1988) is one of the most inventive music videos I've seen. Vertiginously mixing animation with live action to New Order's beat, Breer and Wegman place a droopy-eyed hound in the most compromising positions. Robert Mapplethorpe's skills as a portrait artist are evident in *Still Moving: Patti Smith* (1978), with Smith waxing theologically. Michael Snow's *So is This* (1982) is the wittiest and most concise statement on cinema's temporality, textuality and self-referentiality. There are also films by Bruce Davidson, Bruce Weber, Paul Strand, William Klein and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy. Don't miss it. ▼

GRISTLY from page 68

for an actor, and many in this unwieldy and inexperienced cast couldn't handle it. Sometimes lines came out flat or with too much of a verbal wink at the audience. Matthew Courtney, Baron Von Blumenzack, Sasha Forte—all of whom have worked with Chimes before—had the right level of energy and discipline. The "Sunny Café" scene is exemplary.

Last year's "I WANT Tonsils" was Winchester Chimes' theatrical debut and showed us his wit and rage. As a bastard son of Jarry, Chimes spits and laughs at the strangleholds of the big three: church, state and the family. The subtitle to *American Fat* invites us to "come to where the flavor is." While it seems that Chimes sees this particular fat as fetid, he none the less makes us want to eat it. ▼

SWEET BIRD from page 59

made her reputation at the opposite end of the Williams spectrum, as nervous Miss Alma in *Summer and Smoke*. Kazan prevailed. Page's Alexandra became the only aspect of the play and the film never challenged by anyone.

Page herself saw the stage and the film *Alexandras* as "totally different characters." The film performance, she said, missed the clawing passions of Alexandra onstage and was "much more of a light comedy performance."

The distinction is one of the reasons why the small screen magnetizes her performance. Everything around her recedes into a TV movie with bad manners and good actors—Ed Begley's Boss Finley won the supporting actor Oscar—as the precision of Page's performance takes on a blinding clarity.

She strikes many a blow for American actors and in areas they are traditionally deemed deficient. The wit is leveling, cresting to a fare-thee-well in a dismissal of attempted blackmail: "It's so silly it's touching. It's downright endearing. Makes me feel close to you." The 30 seconds that begin the fabled telephone call from Walter Winchell make mincemeat of the myth that American voices lack range. From a trembling whisper at the top of the scale—"Walter?"—Page swallows to the bottom of the register, in character: "Is that *really* you, Waldo?" En route is the laugh, Alexandra's trademark. Spontaneous, raucous, the bottom of the bottle, it signals the blissful sarcasm as an echo off the precipice. Taint no place for sissies, the point Williams got to make after all. ▼

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GOING OUT

AN EVENTS CALENDAR

Send calendar items to:

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Items must be received by Monday to be included in the following week's issue.

EDITOR'S Notes: *Going Out* is a listing of events that may be of interest to members of the gay/lesbian/bisexual community. Items are generally not excluded on political, philosophical, moral or aesthetic grounds. Homophobic events are also solicited (anti-gay events are often of interest to activists). Commercial items, especially high-priced trips and workshops, are included at our discretion. Weekly events are generally not included except where details of the specific program are provided. Regular weekly events are found in the Community Directory, under each group (call 337-1200 to be listed).

Items should be sent to PO Box 790 (above), not to *OutWeek*. If an item is especially noteworthy, send appropriate *OutWeek* editors their own copy. Finally, due to occasional mishaps that occur in our U.S. postal system, sending an item under two separate covers is good insurance and not considered obnoxious. Further, "priority mail" promises two-day delivery for \$2.40, and is often worthwhile for important events. Thanks.

ONGOING

MAYOR'S OFFICE FOR THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY Solicits Information on June Events to place on the 1990 Pride Month Poster Calendar, which will be widely distributed throughout NYC; deadline is March 15, for any gay/lesbian events taking place in June; Lee Hudson or Jan Carl Park, 566-7385

TOWER PRESS *Pride Guide 90* Deadlines are March 23 for organization listings, and April 20 for calendar of June events listings; 966-7722 (these basic listings are provided free)

prepared by Rick X
with additional information from
The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of
New York

For more information or referrals, to
rap, or to volunteer, call the GLSB
daily, noon to midnight, 212-777-1800

DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY TELEVISION Call for Tapes for *Lookout Lesbian and Gay Video Festival '90*, "by queers or for queers or about queers or all of the above"; all video-mastered modes OK, no film to video; no entry fee, small honoraria; submissions accepted through August 10, 1990 for October 9-11 Festival; 941-1298

LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART (LAVA) Works by Lesbian Artists, the art work of over twenty women; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; MON-FRI, 9 am - 6 pm; SUN, 9 am - noon and 8:30-11 pm; info 620-7310 (weekdays), 620-8120 (weekends) (thru MARCH 22)

INT'L CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY MIDTOWN *The Indomitable Spirit*, works by 100 artists created in response to the AIDS crisis; 1133 6th Ave (at 43 St); TU-SUN, 11-6, except THU till 8; 768-4680 (thru APR 7)

SAL PIRO presents *Busting Out (Lezzyvision Comes of Age)*, a gay women's musical comedy revue for everyone, written by Maz Trope, directed by C.C. Banks; at Trocadero, 368 Bleecker (at Charles); \$12 + one drink min.; FRI and SAT, 8 & 10:30 pm; SUN 4 & 7 pm; reservations 869-3530 (thru MARCH 18)

THE NEW DUPLEX presents Funny Gay Males, Jaffe Cohen, Danny McWilliams, Bob Smith; 61 Christopher St; SAT and SUN at 10 pm; \$10 + 2-drink min.; reservations 255-5438 (open run)

MONDAY
MARCH 5

THE KNITTING FACTORY presents Jaye Austin-Williams and Dian Hamilton in Performance, in the Knot Room, 47 East Houston St (2 blocks east of B'way); 7:30 pm sharp; \$5

MEDICINE SHOW Word/Play series of readings; tonight, Joen Larkin and Honor Moore, poetry; 353 B'way (3 blocks below Canal); 8 pm; \$6; 431-9545 (gay/lesbian/AIDS organizations will have info tables in the lobby)

TUESDAY

MARCH 6

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HIV Health Seminar: Benefits Information; 129 W 20 St, 3rd Floor; 7 pm; free; 807-6655, TDD 645-7470 (this and every 1st TUES)

CENTER STAGE sees *Tru* with Robert Morse, at the Booth Theatre, 8 pm, \$50, 620-7310

LAVENDER HEIGHTS Lecture Series: Lee Hudson, who lobbied for the creation of the Mayor's Office for the Lesbian and Gay Community; at Cornerstone Center, 178 Bennett Ave (one block west of B'way, take A Train to 190 St); 8 pm; \$7; John Mugge 603-4685 (days), 304-2471 (eves) (Editor: this series promises Derek Hodel on 3/22, Virginia Apuzzo on 4/3, Richard Plant on 4/24, Vito Russo on 5/17)

MEDICINE SHOW Word/Play series of readings; tonight, Marcel Christian, Kenyon Gordon, Paula Martinac and Lisa Vice, poetry and fiction; 353 B'way (3 blocks below Canal); 8 pm; \$6; 431-9545 (gay/lesbian/AIDS organizations will have info tables in the lobby)

MINORITY TASK FORCE ON AIDS and THE OXFORD CLUB *A Night of House Legends*, a benefit for MTFA; at Octagon, 555 W 33 St (btwn 10/11 Aves); doors open 8 pm, show at 10:30 pm sharp; club 947-0400

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 7

DIAN HAMILTON forms *Dykes and Lezzies* Lesbian Feminist Theatre and School, starting tonight and continuing every Wednesday through June 13; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; registration 6-7 pm, class 7-10 pm; info 807-8017

PATH: POSITIVE APPROACHES TOWARD HEALING Seminar: *Embracing Ourselves*, led by Peter Hendrickson, Ph.D., for anyone concerned about HIV infection; Integral Yoga Institute, 227 W 13 St; 7:30-9 pm; \$5; 929-0586

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: *Eddie and the Cruisers II: Eddie Lives!*, 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

THURSDAY

MARCH 8

International Women's Day

SAGE Afternoon in Brooklyn, at the Brooklyn Public Library, Kings Highway Branch, 2115 Ocean Ave at Kings Highway; 1-4 pm; 741-2247

SAGE Personal Safety Forum, with Vanessa Ferro, Lesbian and Gay Liaison to the NYC Police Dept., speaking about the safety concerns of seniors in our community; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 2:30-3:30 pm; 741-2247

NY COUNTY LAWYER'S ASSOCIATION CMTE. ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS Forum: *Women and AIDS: A Legal and Ethical Crisis*; with Stephen Joseph, former NYC Health Commissioner; Ravinia Hayes Cozier, Bureau of AIDS Educ., NYC Dept. of Health; Nancy Dubler, Law & Ethics Program, Dept. of Social Medicine, Montefiore Hospital; Moderated by Susan Jacobs, Legal Services Project for Women with AIDS; 14 Vesey St, 2nd Floor (btwn Church/B'way); 5:45 pm; info 267-6646

NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE Metro Area Information Meeting, for the Atlanta meeting APR 24-28; at the Center, 208 W 13 St (1st floor, ASL interpreted); 6-8 pm; info 718/520-0964

LESBIANS UNITED and THE CENTER Women's Night at the Center, a "lesbians only" orientation to learn about the metro-area lesbian community, with speakers and printed matter; 208 W 13 St; 7 pm; \$3 donation; 620-7310

WOMEN MAKE MOVIES *Changing the Subject*, an international exhibition of work by Black, Asian and Latin women from Australia, Britain, Canada and the US; tonight at 7 pm: Midi Onodera's *The Displace View*, Merilu Mal-

let's *Unfinished Diary*; at 9 pm: Zeinabu Davis' *Cycles*, Hiroko Yamazaki's *Juxta*, Pam Tom's *Two Lies*, Julie Dash's *Illusions*; at Anthology Film Archives, 32-34 2nd Ave (at 2nd St); \$5; 477-2714, press 925-0606

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH Queer Minds: A series of lectures informed by the lesbian, gay and bisexual experience, "Communities in Crisis: ACT UP's response to the AIDS Crisis, with Robert Getso, Columbia graduate student in sociology; 65 Fifth Ave, Room 308; 8 pm; 741-5600

DESIGN INDUSTRY FOUNDATION FOR AIDS (DIFFA) presents *Heart Strings*, a musical benefit to raise money for, and awareness about, HIV and AIDS; with Andrea McCord, Barbara Cook, Miles Davis, Joel Grey, Julie Hagerty, Kim Hunter, NYC Gay Men's Chorus, Madeleine Potter, Christopher Reeve, Ron Silver, Tommy Tune, others; Beacon Theatre, B'way at 74 St; 7:30 pm; \$50-\$75; with pre-show cocktail party, \$150; with party & post-performance dinner, \$300; DIFFA 727-3100, Ticketron 947-5850, Beacon Box office 496-7070

FRIDAY MARCH 9

OPEN CIRCLE gathers on the Full Moon to *Celebrate the Goddess*, at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7-7:30 sharp; \$1 (Box 4538, Sunnyside, NY 11104-4538)

WOMEN MAKE MOVIES *Changing the Subject*, an international exhibition of work by Black, Asian and Latin women from Australia, Britain, Canada and the US; tonight at 7 pm: Mona Hatoum's *Measures of Distance*, Pratibha Parmar's *Sari Red and Flesh and Paper*, P. Diaz and M. McIntosh's *The Hidden Wisdom*, Ngozi Onwurah's *Coffee Colored Children*; at Anthology Film Archives, 32-34 2nd Ave (at 2nd St); \$5; 477-2714, press 925-0606

SAGE Women's Fifty+ Rap Group: *Meeting a new mate later in life*,

MORE LISTINGS ON NEXT PAGE

Tuning In: A TV/Radio Guide for OutWeek Readers

(Editor's Note: We solicit entries from radio and TV, including talk shows, news programs, movies, extravaganzas, cable series and specials, and any other electronic media events that might interest our subscribers. Information must be received by Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Send items to Rick X, Tuning In, Box 790, NY, NY 10108.)

CCTV (Rick X, Box 790, NYC 10108)

GBS (Gay Broadcasting System, Butch Peaston, 178 7th Ave, Ste. A-3, NYC 10011; 243-1570)

GCN (Gay Cable Network, Lou Maletta, 32 Union Square East, Suite 1217; 477-4220)

GMHC (Gay Men's Health Crisis, Jean Carlomusto, 129 W 20 St, NYC 10011; 807-7517)

HBO (Home Box Office Prods., 1100 Ave/Ams, NYC 10036; 512-1000)

RB PROD (Robin Byrd Productions, Box 305, NYC 10021; 988-2973)

WBAI-FM (505 8th Ave, 19th Fl, NYC 10018; 279-0707)

WNET-TV (356 W 58 St, NYC 10019; 560-3000)

MONDAY, MARCH 5

GCN Be My Guest, Sybil Bruncheon hosts a panel game show

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 10:00-10:30 pm

Tomorrow's TV Tonight: entertainment

Manhattan and Paragon Cable, Channel D/17; 11:30 pm - 12:30 am

CCTV The Closet Case Show: tonight, go-go boys at Marc Berkley's *Sinful Sundays* at Hot Rod; also, the continuing saga of Frankie and Jake covered in marshmallow fluff at Mars

Manhattan Cable, Channel C/16; midnight - 12:30 am

Gay TV: gay male porno clips

Paragon Cable, Channel J/23; 1-1:30 am (MON/TUE)

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

HBO What If I'm Gay?, "Tom plays on the high school soccer team and has a steady girlfriend...but why is he confused?"

12:30-1:15 pm (repeats MARCH 15, 20, 29)

GBS Out in the 90's: live news coverage, discussion and interviews; tonight, live roundtable with Larry Kramer, Vivian Shapiro, Paula Ettelbrick, Ann Northrop

Manhattan and Paragon Cable, Channel C/16; 11 pm to midnight

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

WNET-TV American Playhouse, *Andre's Mother*: Sada Thompson copes with her son Richard Thomas' death from AIDS

Channel 13, 9:10-10 pm; repeats 4 hours later, 1-1:50 am (WED/THUR)

RB PROD The Robin Byrd Show: male and female strippers

Manhattan and Paragon Cable, Channel J/23; midnight - 1 am

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

GMHC Living With AIDS: health and politics

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23, 9:30-10:00 pm

Paragon Cable, Channel J/23; 11:30 pm - midnight

GCN Pride & Progress: news, health, sports

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 10:30-11:00 pm

GCN The Right Stuff: media, entertainment, advice

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 11:00-11:30 pm

RB PROD Men For Men: Robin Byrd presents gay male porno stars

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 11:30 pm - midnight

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

The Gay Dating Game Show

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 7:30-8:00 pm

Gay TV: male porno clips

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 11-11:30 pm

RB PROD Robin Byrd Show: male and female strippers

Manhattan and Paragon Cable, Channel J/23; 1-2 am (FRI/SAT)

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

WNET-TV Folk Music Festival: James Taylor at 4:05 pm; *Peter, Paul, and Mary* 25th Anniversary at 6 pm; Joan Baez with Jackson Browne at 8 pm; Simon and Garfunkel 1981 Reunion in Central Park at 9:30 pm; James Taylor repeat at 11:30 pm; *Peter, Paul and Mary* repeat at 1:30 am (SAT/SUN); Joan Baez repeat at 3:30 am (SAT/SUN)

Channel 13

RB PROD The Early Byrd: Robin Byrd presents male/female strippers

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 11-midnight

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

WBAI-FM Outlooks (Gay & Lesbian Independent Broadcasters): tonight, *Lesbians in the Labor Movement*, with Lisa Winters and Priscilla Ehly

99.5 FM, 7:30-8:30 pm (every other Sunday, alternating with *The Gay Show*)

WNET-TV Great Moments From the Met, with F. Murray Abraham paying tribute to the 100-year history of the Metropolitan Opera, with clips of the best performances taped and filmed over the years

Channel 13, 8-9:30 pm

GCN Men & Films: male erotica

Manhattan Cable, Channel J/23; 11:30 pm - midnight

at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:30 pm; limited registration 741-2247 (This is the second of a five-week series.)

SATURDAY

M A R C H 1 0

THE NEW MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART Symposium: *Subjects of History*, a day of discussion in conjunction with the exhibition *Interim*, by Mary Kelly; with Mary Kelly and Laura Mulvey (*Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema*) in the morning; Parveen Adams (editor, *m/f*), Griselda Pollock (*Vision and Difference: Feminism, Femininity and the Histories of Art*), Emily Apter (*Fetishism and Domesticity: Psychoanalysis and Literary Obsession in 19th-Century France*), Isaac Julien (director, *Looking for Langston*), and moderator, Hal Foster (editor, *The Anti-Aesthetic: Essays in Postmodern Culture*); 584 Broadway (above Prince, across the street from the museum); 9:30-4 pm; \$10 members and students/\$15 nonmembers; reservations 219-1222

THE ANSWER IS LOVING Women Talking Women's Talk: Beyond Embarrassment; "our relationship with self and others. How do we think, feel and behave? Do we hold ourselves back because of fear, anger, shame and embarrassment of what all the you's may be thinking and feeling?" Manhattan location; 9:45 am - 4 pm; \$55; rsvp 718/998-2305

CENTER KIDS sees *Humpty Dumpty Falls in Love*, for young children; at The Little People's Theater Company, 38 Grove St; 1:30 pm; \$5.50; for member info, leave message at 620-7310

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH Purim Evening, 7 pm; party, 9:15 pm; 57 Bethune St (in the Westbeth Complex); 929-9498

DIGNITY/BIG APPLE Forum on Dignity, Inc.'s Statement on Sexual Ethics, following the Liturgy; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 818-1309

CENTER 2nd Saturday Dance; 208 W 13 St; 9 pm - 1 am; \$8/\$6 members, seniors, students; 620-7310

THE NEW MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART The Question of Manet's *Olympia*: Posed and Skirted, presented by The V-Girls, a New York-based study and performance group; 583 B'way (above

Prince); 9 pm; \$6 members and students/\$10 nonmembers; reservations 219-1222

SPECTRUM presents Bardeux (Jaz and Acacia), singing *When We Kiss and I Love to Bass*; 802 64th Street, Brooklyn (N Train to 8th Ave stop, Bay Ridge); 718/238-8213

SUNDAY

M A R C H 1 1

SAGE Reaching Out & Reaching In: A Workshop About Making Connections, to help participants in "becoming aware of their inner experiences and learning to relate more spontaneously and creatively to others"; led by therapist Lynn Preston; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; register 741-2247

WILLIAM AND MARY GAY AND LESBIAN ALUMNI/AE Sunday Brunch, for alums living in New York and New England; to be held in Springfield, MA; 1 pm; brunch info, Bob, 413/736-0629; New England member info 617/353-19251

CENTER Women's Circle, Line and Square Dance, with live musicians and an instructor calling the moves; 208 W 13 St; 2-5 pm; \$10; 212/567-2636, 718/784-2554

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE First Anniversary Party and Open House; 681 Washington St (at Charles St); 2-6 pm; free; 727-7330

KOOL KOMRADS Sinful Sundays presents Glamamore as "Evita", with \$2 draft, \$3.50 drinks; free buffet from 10 pm to midnight, go-go boys, drive-in porn theater (make out in classic cars); 270 11th Ave (at 28 St); doors open 10 pm; 244-1950

MONDAY

M A R C H 1 2

CARROT PRODUCTIONS presents the opening of *Spare Parts*, about two gay women who want to have a baby, but who need "a spare part"; at Circle In The Square Downtown, 159 Bleecker St; 645-7744

CENTER SPORTS sees NY Rangers vs. LA Kings, hockey match; at Madison Square Garden, 33rd St & 7th Ave; 7:30 pm; members \$25/non-members \$35; 620-7310

TUESDAY

M A R C H 1 3

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HIV Health Seminar: Insurance Information; 129 W 20 St, 3rd Floor; 7 pm; free; 807-6655, TDD 645-7470 (this and every 2nd TUES)

GBS Out in the 90's: live news coverage, discussion and interviews; tonight, Amy Ashworth of P-FLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays) talks with gay parents; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, Channel C/16, 11 pm to midnight

WEDNESDAY

M A R C H 1 4

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND Theatre Party: *Let's & Lovage*, starring Maggie Smith; with open bar and hors d'oeuvres at Sam's Cafe (152 W 52) from 5:30-7:30 pm, show at 8 pm (Barrymore Theater, 243 W 47); \$125-\$1000; 995-8585 (to LLDEF, 666 B'way, NYC 10012)

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE presents Bonnie S. Anderson & Judith P. Zinsser: "A History of Their Own," in honor of Women's History Month; 681 Washington St (at Charles St); 7 pm; free, but limited seating; 727-7330

PATH: POSITIVE APPROACHES TOWARD HEALING Seminar: *Making Peace With the Past*, led by Peter Hendrickson, Ph.D., for anyone concerned about HIV infection; Integral Yoga Institute, 227 W 13 St; 7:30-9 pm; \$5; 929-0586

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Men Meeting Men Workshop, to enhance self-confidence and ability to negotiate safer sex with potential partners; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8-10:30 pm; free; no pre-registration, 807-6655 (TDD 645-7470)

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS Meeting: *Sensory Deprivation & Rigorous Bondage*, with answers to the question, "What's it like when you not only can't move a muscle, but can't see, feel, or hear anything outside your skin?"; at the Center, 3rd Floor, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm (doors open at 8); \$5; 727-9878

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: *Parthenon*, 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

THURSDAY

M A R C H 1 5

HBO *What If I'm Gay?*, "Tom plays on the high school soccer team and has a steady girlfriend...but why is he confused?" 4:30-5:15 pm

HERITAGE OF PRIDE Outreach Night, with rare film of NYC's first Gay and Lesbian Pride March in 1970, video of last year's march and fireworks over the Hudson, discussion of this year's volunteer opportunities both before and during the Pride Weekend, with free refreshments; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:30 pm; free; 691-1774 (Editor: general membership meetings will be held at the Center on second Mondays: APR 9, MAY 14, JUNE 11; executive board meets first Mondays: MARCH 5, APR 2, MAY 7, JUNE 4, at the HOP office, 57 W 16 St)

BAD NEIGHBORS presents *The Monk*, a "Gothic tragedy" with "a dash of East Village high camp," about a monk "betrayed by his own sexual perversity, adding rape, incest and matricide to his resume...ultimately led to his death by Satan disguised as the Pope"; at the Cooper Square Theatre, 50 E 7 St (near 2nd Ave); \$10; reservations/info 989-0788 (THUR-SUN, 8 pm, thru APRIL 1)

JUDSON MEMORIAL CHURCH presents *La Gran Scena Opera* Company, doing spoofs of opera favorites, a benefit for Judson's yearlong Centennial Celebration; 55 Washington Square South; 8 pm; \$15; reservations 777-0033 (also FRI & SAT, MARCH 16 & 17, 8 pm) (Editor: Julie Kurnitz appears MARCH 23 & 24; The Flirtations sing APRIL 6 & 7)

WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVES COMMUNITY CENTER Weekly Discussion for Lesbians; tonight, "long-term relationships"; 675 Woodfield Rd, West Hempstead, LI; 8 pm; \$3 more if/less if; 516/483-2050 (Editor's note: This discussion group meets every Thursday. There are also monthly discussions for lesbian educators, lesbians in health care, lesbian mothers, as well as social/support groups for single lesbians and older lesbians.)

DANCING OUT

Monday

Private Eyes (Marc Berkley's *Kool Komrads*; male strippers) 12 W 21 St, club 206-7772

Tuesday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

"Love Machine at Underground, 860 Bway, near 17th St; 254-4005

***Quick** (Chip Duckett's 1st Tuesday of the month, AIDS benefit) 6 Hubert St (on Hudson, 3 blocks below Canal); 925-2442

Wednesday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

Private Eyes (Jeffrey Sanker & Dallas's *Club Bad*) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7772

***Pyramid** (Dean Johnson's *Rock & Roll Fag Bar*) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th/7th Streets; 420-1590

Silver Lining (2-4-1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun) 175 Cherry La., Floral Pk, LI; 516/354-9641

Starz (2-4-1 drinks, also open daily) 202 Westchester Ave, White Plains; 914/761-3100

Twenty/Twenty (Marc Berkley's *Kool Komrads*, gay men after 10 pm) 20 W 20 St; club 727-8841

Thursday

***Boybar** (has a new wave drag show) 15 1/2 St Marks Place, btwn 2nd/3rd Aves; 674-7959

***Copacabana** (last Thu. of the month has Susanne Bartsch party) 10 E 60 St, at Fifth Ave; 755-6010

Excalibur (\$1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

Grand Central (2-4-1 drinks, also open Wed-Sun) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI; 516/536-4800

***Pyramid** 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th/7th Streets; 420-1590

***Quick!** (Chip Duckett Thursdays) 6 Hubert St (on Hudson, 3 blocks below Canal); 925-2442

Friday

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl, btwn 2nd/3rd Aves; 674-7959

***Carmelita's** (Chip Duckett's *Boy+Boy*) 150 E 14 St; club 673-9015

Columbia Dances (1st Friday of every month) 118th St & Bway; 854-3574 days

Private Eyes (preppies and young professionals) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7772

Twenty/Twenty (Marc Berkley's *Professional Happy Hour* starts MAR 9) 20 W 20 St, 4-8 pm; club 727-8841

Saturday

Barefoot Boogie (smoke & alcohol free) 434 6th Ave (btwn 9/10 Sts); 832-6759

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Place, btwn 2nd/3rd Aves; 674-7959

The Center Dances (2nd and 4th Saturdays) 208 W 13 St, btwn 7th/8th Aves; 620-7310

Girth and Mirth Club at the Center (3rd Saturdays, heavy men & their admirers) 208 W 13 St; 620-7310

Pop Boys at Columbia (3rd Saturdays, through June 16) 116 & B'way, 10 pm - 3 am; info 629-1989

Private Eyes (Jeffrey Sanker & Dallas's *Club Bad*) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7772

Red Zone (mixed gay/straight) 440 W 54 St, btwn 10/11 Aves; 582-2222

Roxy (mixed gay/straight) 515 W 18 St (btwn 10/11 Aves); 645-5156

Saint At Large (Saturdays discontinued; March 17 *Black Party* will be the last party at 105 2nd Ave); 674-8541

Sound Factory (mixed gay/straight, Acid House, no alcohol) 530 W 27 St (btwn 10th/11th Aves); 643-0728

Sunday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

***Mars** (Chip Duckett's *Mars Needs Men* night) Westside Highway and 13th St; 691-6262

***Pyramid** (Hapi Phace and Drag + Variety Show) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6/7 Streets; 420-1590

Hot Rod (Marc Berkley's *Sinful Sundays*; Father Ritter's friend, Kevin

Kite, on the door) 270 11th Ave (btwn 27/28 Sts); club 244-1963
Twenty/Twenty (T-Dance, 4 pm - 2 am) 20 W 20 St (5/6 Aves); 727-8841

Every Night (or almost)

Monster (West Village) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557
Spectrum (closed MON & TUE, WED free, THU free & 2-4-1 drinks, FRI m/f strippers, SAT guest star show, SUN live show & free 9-10 pm) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn; 718/238-8213

DANCING OUT for Women Dancing

Tuesday

Hatfield's 128-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens; 718/261-8484

Wednesday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Excalibur (*Ladies Night*, \$1 drinks) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

Twenty/Twenty (*Shescape After Work*, 5-10 pm) 20 W 20 St (btwn 5th/6th Aves); info 645-6479, club 727-8841

Thursday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Friday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

***Carmelita's** (Chip Duckett's *Girl+Girl*) 150 E 14 St; club 673-9015

Cheeks 2000 Long Beach Road, Island Park, LI; 516/431-5700

Roxy (*Shescape* party) 515 W 18 St, btwn 10th/11th Aves; info 645-6479, club 645-5156

Visions 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside; info 718/846-7131, club 718/899-9031

Saturday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

The Center (*Women & Friends* 1st Saturdays, Feb. thru May) 208 W 13 St; 620-7310

Silver Lining 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park, LI; 516/354-9641

Starz 836 Grand Boulevard, Deer Park, LI; 516/242-3857

Twenty/Twenty (*Shescape* party) 20 West 20 Street (btwn 5th/6th Aves); info 645-6479, club 727-8841

Sunday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Cave Canem (*Sandwich Sister Sundays*) 24 1st Ave at 1st St; 529-9665

Handle Bar (*Jenny & Nancy's Girl Bar*) 232 E 9 St (2/3 Aves), 6 pm - midnight

Heartbreak (Nasty Girl Prods. *Party for Women*) 179 Varick St (7th Ave), below Houston, 5-11 pm; info 353-0227, club 691-2388

Hot Rod (*Our Parties/Ourselves*, *Tea Dance* 2nd Sundays) 270 11th Ave (btwn 27/28 Sts), 5-10 pm; info 245-1786, club 244-1963

Mars (*Girl Sunday*, *Tea Dance* 1st Sundays) Westside Highway and 13th St, 5-9 pm; 691-6262

Every Night (or almost)

Cubby Hole 438 Hudson St @ Morton St; 243-9079

Duchess II Sheridan Sq. & 7th Ave South; 242-1408

Spectrum (closed Mon & Tues; good gay/lesbian mix, see *Every Night*, above, for details) 802 64th St, Bklyn; 718/238-8213

NOTE:

Party events are subject to change. Call first to confirm.

All phone numbers are area code 212, unless otherwise noted.

* = TVs welcome.

Send corrections/additions to:

Rick X, P.O. Box 790, New York, NY 10108

OUTWEEK BAR GUIDE

WEST SIDE

Bike Stop West, 230 W. 75th St., 874-9014, Neighborhood bar, occasional entertainment.

Candle Bar, 309 Amsterdam Ave., 874-9155, Friendly leather/western bar.

Cat's, 730 8th Ave., 221-7559, Older men, younger guys

Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St., 757-0788, Sing-along piano bar and cabaret.

Sally's Hideaway, 264 W. 43 St., 221-9152

Town & Country, 9th Ave at 46th St., 307-1503

Trix, 246 W. 48 St. (bet. Bdwy & 8th Ave), 664-8331, Cash and carry.

The Works, 428 Columbus Ave (at 81st), 799-7365, Cruisy west side crowd.

EAST SIDE

Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944, Sing-along piano bar.

G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752, Piano bar, mature crowd.

Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714, Neighborhood restaurant and bar.

Regent East, 204 E. 58th St., 355-9465

Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807, Friendly guys, checkbook romance.

South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave., 684-8376

Star Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710

EAST VILLAGE

The Bar, 68 2nd Ave. (at 4th St.), 674-9714, East Villagers and ACT UPers.

Boy Bar, 15 St. Mark's Pl., 674-7959, Dancing / Drag shows.

The Pyramid, 101 Avenue A, 420-1590, Dancing / Drag shows.

Tunnel Bar, 116 1st Ave (7th St.), 777-9232 W. Village crowd in the E. Village.

WEST VILLAGE

The Annex (to Cellblock 28), 673 Hudson St. (bet. 13th & 14th), 627-1140, J/O Club.

Badlands, Christopher & West St., 741-9236, Cruisy waterfront bar.

Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684, Funky dive and juke joint.

Cellblock 28, 28 9th Ave, 733-3144, J/O club.

The Cubbyhole, 438 Hudson (Morton St.), 243-9079, Neighborhood bar for gay women & men.

D.T.'s Fat Cat, 281 W. 12th St., 243-9041, Piano bar. Mixed M/F.

Duchess II, 70 Grove St (7th Ave.), 242-1408, Women.

J's, 675 Hudson St., 242-9292, J/O club.

Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672, Serving Coors, Coors Lite, & Coors Draft.

Keller's, 384 West St. (at Christopher), 243-1907, Friendly neighborhood crowd.

Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322, Piano bar.

The Locker Room, 400 W. 14th St. (9th Ave), 459-4299, J/O club.

Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St. (7th Ave), 243-9323, Sing-along piano bar.



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GAY BROADCASTING SYSTEM

The Monster, 80 Grove St. (7th Ave.), 924-3558, Piano bar & disco/dancing.

Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204, Younger crowd.

Ramrod, 185 Christopher St. Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830.

Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340.

Ty's, 114 Christopher, 741-9641, Cruisy neighborhood bar.

Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787, Huge video bar.

CHELSEA

Barbary Coast, 64 7th Ave. (14th St.), 675-0385, Friendly, neighborhood bar.

The Break, 232 8th Ave. (22nd St.), 627-0072.

Chelsea Transfer, 131 8th Ave. (bet. 16th & 17th), 929-7183, Neighborhood English pub.

Eagle's Nest, 142 11th Ave (21st St.), 691-8451, Leather / Levi's.

Private Eyes, 12 W. 21st St. (bet. 5th & 6th), 206-7770, Dancing, Video Club.

Rawhide, 212 8th Ave., (21st St.), Leather / Levi's.

Spike, 120 11th Ave., 243-9688, Leather & Uniforms.

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Community Directory

A.C.Q.C.

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SOCIAL SERVICES • EDUCATION • BUDDIES
COUNSELING • SUPPORT GROUPS
Volunteer Opportunities
(718) 886-2500 (voice) (718) 886-2985 (TDD)

ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power)
496A Hudson Street, Suite G4 NYC 10014
(212) 886-1114

A diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis. Gen. meetings Mon. nights 7:30, at the Community Center 208 W. 13th.

ALDEC/APLN-NY

(Asian Lesbians of the East Coast/
Asian Pacific Lesbian Network-New York)

We are a political, social and supportive network of Asian Pacific lesbians. Planning meetings on the 1st Sunday and social events on the last Friday of each month. Call (212) 517-5598 for more information.

ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services)

for Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program. 214 Central Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 (914) 693-0000 638 Broadway, Newburgh, NY 12550 (914) 562-5005 AIDSline (914) 993-0667

ATR (AIDS TREATMENT REGISTRY, INC.)

Publishes a bi-monthly Directory of clinical trials of experimental AIDS/HIV treatments in NY/NJ, and has educational materials/seminars for trial participants. ATR also advocates for improvements in the trial system. P.O. Box 30234, NY, NY 1011-0102. (212) 268-4196. Publications free/donation requested.

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BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Lesbian & Gay Community Centr. Ground Floor

BIDS (BISEXUAL DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION GROUP)

Shares S/M experiences and fantasies with others in a positive, non-judgmental atmosphere. First Sunday of the month, 4:45pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BISEXUAL PRIDE DISCUSSION GROUP

Topical discussions on issues of interest to the community in a congenial atmosphere, followed by an informal dinner at a friendly local restaurant. Every Sunday, 3:00 - 4:30pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BIWAYS NEW YORK

Monthly social events for the Bisexual community and friends. Call NYABN for details of upcoming events. (718) 353-8245

BIPAC (BISEXUAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE)

Political action on issues of importance to the Bisexual/Lesbian/Gay community. Monthly meeting/potluck held 8:00pm on fourth Thursday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. (718) 353-8245

BISEXUAL YOUTH

Informal social & support group for Bisexual kids/youth. Monthly meeting/potluck lunch held 1:00pm on fourth Sunday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BLUS-BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD

Social, political and support networking group for women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Fridays of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 6:30-8pm. For more info call Lisa at (212) 829-9817.

BODY POSITIVE

If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, referrals, social activities and up-to-date national monthly, "THE BODY POSITIVE" (\$15/year). (212) 633-1782.

2005 Broadway, Suite 306, NYC, NY 10023

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group. West-Park Presbyterian Church 165 West 86th Street

Wed: worship service 6:30 pm, program 7:30.
Marsha (212) 304-4373 Charlie (212) 691-7118.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

208 West 13th Street, NYC, New York 10011
For Appointments and Information
(212) 675-3558 (TTY/Voice)

PROVIDING CARING, SENSITIVE AND LOW COST
HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE LESBIAN AND GAY
COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

PWAs, PWRCs & their physicians taking the initiative to seek promising intervention against AIDS in a resp. manner. For more info or to volunteer please call (212) 481-1050.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH

NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services
Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street
For info. call: (212) 929-9496.

DIGNITY/BIG APPLE

A community of Lesbian and Gay Catholics. Activities include Liturgies and socials every Sat., 8:00 pm, at the Center, 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Call (212) 818-1309.

DIGNITY NEW YORK

lesbian and gay Catholics and friends
AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development.

The Cathedral Project.

Worship Services & Social-Sun. Eves. 7:30pm-St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th Street @ Waverly-675-2179

EDGE

Education in a Disabled Gay Environment
For the physically disabled Lesbian and Gay
Community. (212) 989-1821

P.O. Box 305 Village Station, New York, NY 10014

FEMME SUPPORT GROUP

For lesbians who self identify as Femmes. For info and meeting times call Lisa at (212) 829-9817. No men please.

FRONT RUNNERS

A running club for lesbian and gay athletes of all abilities. Fun Runs of 1-6 miles held every Sat. at 10am and Weds. at 7pm in Central Park and every Tues. at 7pm in Prospect Park. For information: call (212) 724-8700.

THE FUND FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

National Gay and Lesbian Crisis Line
"AIDS 800" - 1-800-SOS-GAYS

Educational Resource Center; Positive Images
Media Center; NY State Arts Program
666 Broadway Suite 410 NYC, NY 10012 (212) 529-1600

THE GAY AFRICAN AMERICANS OF WESTCHESTER (The GAA)

is a community based support group formed in Westchester County. Various activities are planned for the coming months.

Please call 914-376-0727 for more info.

GLAAD

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
80 Verick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 986-1700

GLAAD combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay community and organizing grassroots response to anti-gay bigotry.

Do you have 30 minutes a month to fight homophobia?

Join the GLAAD PhoneTree! Call (212)-986-1700 for information.

GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH CONCERN

An office of the NYC Dept. of Health, provides links between NYC Health & Human Svcs, and the Lesbian & Gay community, focusing in ALL health concerns; resource information for health services consumers and providers. 125 Worth Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 566-4995.

GAY & LESBIAN PSYCHOTHERAPY

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(212) 799-9432

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS

Dedicated to safe and responsible S/M since 1981. Open meetings w/programs on S/M techniques, lifestyle issues, political and social concerns. Also special events, speakers bureau, workshops, demos, affinity groups, newsletter, more. GMSSMA -Dept. 0, 496A Hudson Street, Suite D23, NYC 10014. (212) 727-9878.

**TO LIST
YOUR ORGANIZATION IN
OUTWEEK'S
COMMUNITY DIRECTORY,
CALL (212) 337-1223.**

GMAD(GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)
80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousness-raising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community. GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanic/Latino men of color. Meetings are held, weekly, on Fridays. For more information, call 718-802-0162.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE
FOR INFORMATION ON SAFER SEX AND HIV-RELATED HEALTH SERVICES, AND FOR INFORMATION ON ONE-TIME, WALK-IN AIDS COUNSELING SERVICES
212-807-8655
212-645-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired)

Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sat 12:00 to 3:00

GIRTH & MIRTH CLUB OF NEW YORK
Social club for heavy, chubby gay men & their admirers. Monthly socials at the "Center", weekly bar nights Thursdays at the "Chelsea Transfer", monthly Fat Apple Review, bi-monthly F.A.R. penpals. For more information call Ernie at 914-688-7735 or write: G&M/NY, Dept. O, P.O. Box 10, Pelham, NY 10803.

HEAL (Health Education AIDS Liaison)
Weekly info. and support group for treatments for AIDS which do not compromise the immune system further, including alternative and holistic approaches. Wed 8pm. 208 W. 13th St. (212) 674-HOPE.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE
for lesbian and gay youth. Counseling, drop-in center (M-F, 3-6pm), rep groups, Harvey Milk High School, AIDS and safer sex information, referrals, professional education.
(212) 633-8920 (voice)
(212) 633-8926 TTY for deaf

HISPANIC UNITED GAYS & LESBIANS
Educational services, political action, counseling and social activities in Spanish and English by and for the Latino Lesbian and Gay Community.
General meetings 8:00 pm 4th Thursday of every month at 208 West 13th Street.
Cell (212) 691-4181
or write H.U.G.L., P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10019.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND
Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for lesbians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$35 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdays. Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 995-8585

LAVA (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)
Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to:
Miriam Fougner
118 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217.

THE LESBIAN AND GAY BIG APPLE CORPS
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123 West 44th St. Suite 12L New York, NY 10036
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LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER
208 West 13th Street New York, NY 10011
(212) 620-7310 8am-11pm everyday.
A place for community organizing and networking, social services, cultural programs, and social events sponsored by the Center and more than 150 community organizations.

LESBIAN AND GAY LABOR NETWORK
An organization of Lesbians and Gays who are active in their labor unions working on domestic partnership benefits and AIDS issues. For more information call (212) 923-8680.

LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT
of the American Civil Liberties Union
KNOW YOUR RIGHTS / WE'RE EXPANDING THEM
(212) 944-9800, ext. 545

LESBIANS AND GAYS OF FLATBUSH
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LONG ISLAND ACT-UP
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Support us for change on Long Island.
(516) 338-4662 (516) 997-5238 Nassau
(516) 828-5530 Suffolk

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER NY
A multi-racial group of gay men against racism. Meetings every Friday night at 7:45 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th Street. For more info, call: (212) 245-6366 or (212) 222-9794.

METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)
Our 200 member lesbian and gay tennis club includes players from beginning to tournament level. Monthly tennis parties. Winter indoor league. Come play with us! For information: MTG, Suite K03, 490-A Hudson St., New York, NY 10025. (718) 852-8582.

MOCA (Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program)
Provides safer sex and AIDS education information to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of peer-support groups for gay and bisexual Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City.
303 Ninth Ave, New York, NY 10001
or call (212) 239-1790.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE
is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action.
NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.
(202) 332-6483.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
NYACN is the community's largest gay and lesbian professional group, welcoming all in communications—and their friends. Monthly meetings, 3rd Wed 6:30pm at the Community Center. Members' newsletter, job hotline, annual directory. Phone (212) 517-0380 for more info. Mention OutWeek for one free newsletter.

N.Y. WOMEN'S SOFTBALL GUILD
For experienced, serious Softball Players, Coaches and Managers. We play mod/fast pitch weekends in Manhattan and Queens. Try-outs begin Feb. 11 thru April- or until filled. (212) 255-1379 Janet.

NINTH STREET CENTER
Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homosexual lifestyle is a rational, desirable choice for individuals dissatisfied with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically-focussed rep groups, Tues., Sat., 8 to 10 pm. peer counseling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info call (212) 228-5153.

NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)
Dedicated to sexual freedom and especially interested in gay intergenerational relationships. Monthly Bulletin and regular chapter meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Yearly membership is \$20; write NAMBLA, PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call (212) 807-8578 for information.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES
Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV. THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS. Call (212) 255-8554

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT
Counseling, advocacy, and information for survivors of anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other types of victimization.
All services free and confidential.
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PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION
(212) 532-0290/1-800-828-3280/Hotline (212) 532-0568
Monday thru Friday 10am-8pm
Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWAs.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP
Underground buyer's club importing not-yet-approved medications and nutritional supplements. 31 West 26th St. 4th Floor (212) 532-0280

SAGE: (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)
Social Service Agency, providing care, activities, & educational services for gay & lesbian senior citizens. Also serves over 160 homebound seniors & older PWA's.
208 West 13th St. NYC 10011, (212) 741-2247

SETHIAN GAYS, LESBIANS AND BISexuals
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THE OUTREACH USING COMMUNAL HEALING (TOUCH)
Community volunteers providing a weekly buffet supper for the Brooklyn AIDS community. TOUCH meets Monday eve. 5pm to 6:30pm at downtown Brooklyn Friends Meeting House (110 Schermerhorn St. near Boerum Place). Limited transportation may be arranged. Info: (718) 622-2750. TOUCH welcomes contributions of funds, food and volunteers.

ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE
Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church on Sawkill Road in Kingston. For information, call (914) 626-3203.

WHAMI (Women's Health Action Mobilization)
A non-partisan coalition committed to demanding, securing and defending absolute reproductive freedom and quality health care for all women. We meet every Wed. at 6:30 pm at the Village Independent Democrats, 224 West Fourth Street (off Sheridan Sq.). We are not affiliated with VID. (212) 713-5966. Mailing address: WHAMI, P.O. Box 733, NYC 10009

WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY CENTER (WACC)
A non-profit, Lesbian community center serving Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties. Thurs night weekly discussion grps. 8:30pm, for other activities please contact us at (516) 483-2050.

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GAY MALES WANTED

Gay males wanted to participate in research to create a national public service campaign. Fee will be paid for 1/2 hour interview. Confidentiality assured. Call collect 919-544-5448 3PM to 7PM M-F. Ask for Mike.

SAGE INVITES ALL WOMEN

TO THE 6TH ANNUAL ALMOST SPRING DANCE, APRIL 1, 1990, AT THE RED ZONE, 440 WEST 54TH STREET, 5:00-10:00. \$15.00 IN ADVANCE, \$20.00 AT THE DOOR. SEND CHECKS TO SAGE, DEPT. O, 208 WEST 13TH STREET, NYC, 10011. (212) 741-2247.

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PUBLIC EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund is looking for a staff person to oversee educational publications and events. Must be excellent writer, creative, and have some experience working for lesbian and gay rights; computer skills very helpful; legal background helpful, but not necessary. Send resume, two writing samples, and references by Jan. 25, 1990 to: Paula L. Ettelbrick, Legal Director, LLDEF, Inc., 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012.

Women and people of color encouraged to apply.

STORE HELP

\$225/wk. start, \$275/wk. after 2 months, 32 1/2 hrs, Blue Cross, 1 week paid vacation, 18 years age min., references required. Gay Treasures, 546 Hudson Street, (212) 255-5756, ask for Don.

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SAGE: Senior Action in a Gay Environment, Inc. a non-profit organization, is seeking an individual who will have full-time financial responsibility for this social service agency caring for gay and lesbian seniors in the NY metropolitan area. This person must have three years or more work experience in fund-raising strategies, public relations activities and preparation of grant proposals for foundations and governmental agencies. This person must have previous experience in financial management and budget preparation for business and/or non-profit organizations. SAGE, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Please direct all inquiries and resumes to: Chair, Search Committee, SAGE, Inc., 208 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011. Confidentiality respected.

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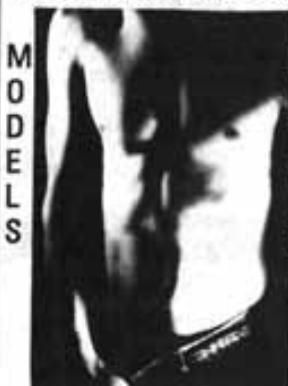
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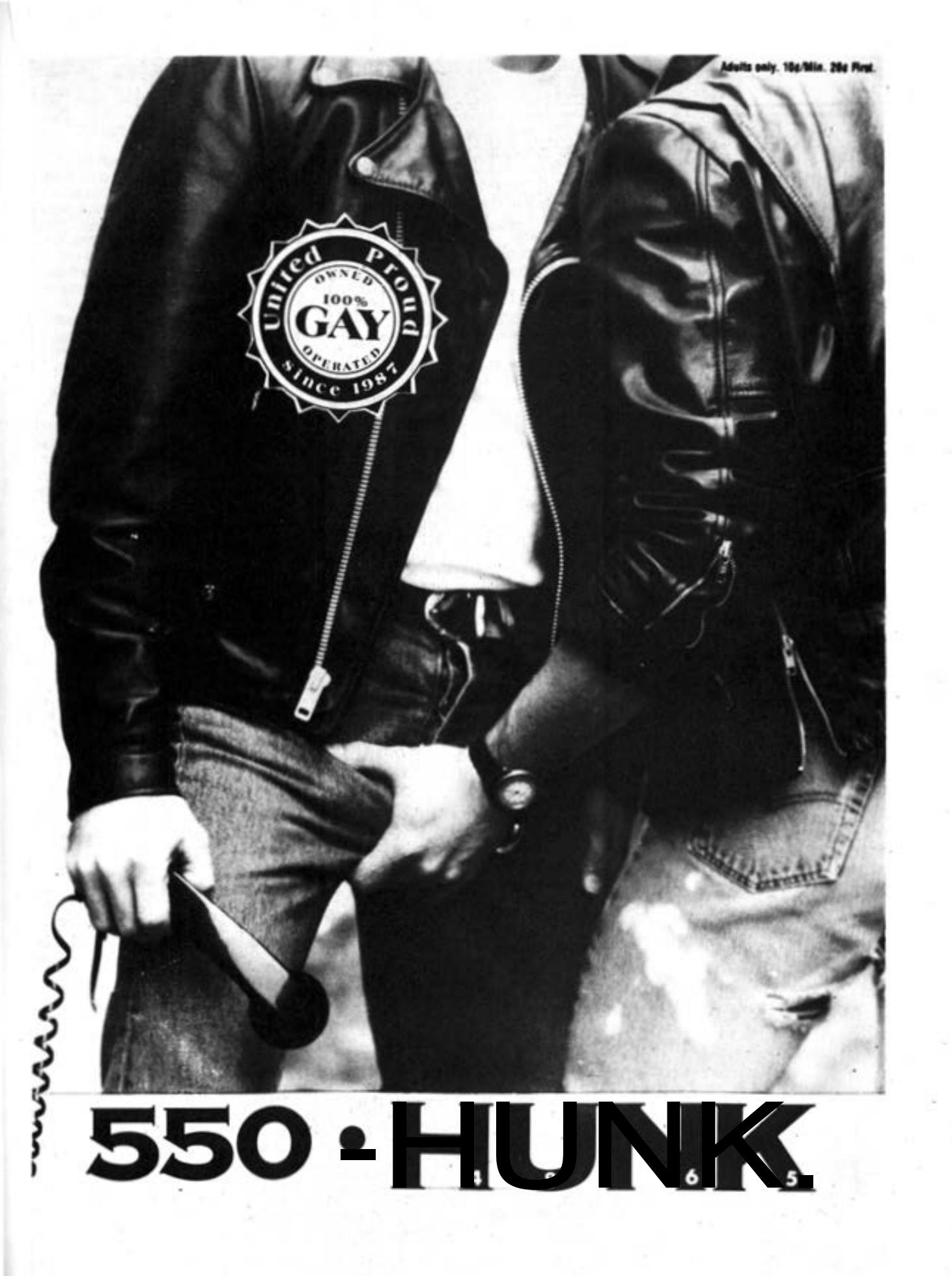
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yond. You should be good-natured, open-minded and charming, with some interest, like myself, in travel and the country. Men too thin or too heavy could only become friends, not mates (sorry). Otherwise, aspires to kissing and cuddling at least. The better you know yourself, the better your chances with me. Photo/letter to Outweek Box 2201

CLYDE'S
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**CLIP THIS
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MR./MS. RIGHT
(OR HAVE FUN WITH A FEW WRONGS
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We can fight them and we can win, but only if we all act together and act fast.

WRITE:

John J. Kelliher, Secretary
New York State
Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

FAX:

New York Telephone (212) 302-9452
Public Service Commission (518) 474-7146

CALL:

New York Telephone (212) 395-2552
Public Service Commission (518) 474-6530

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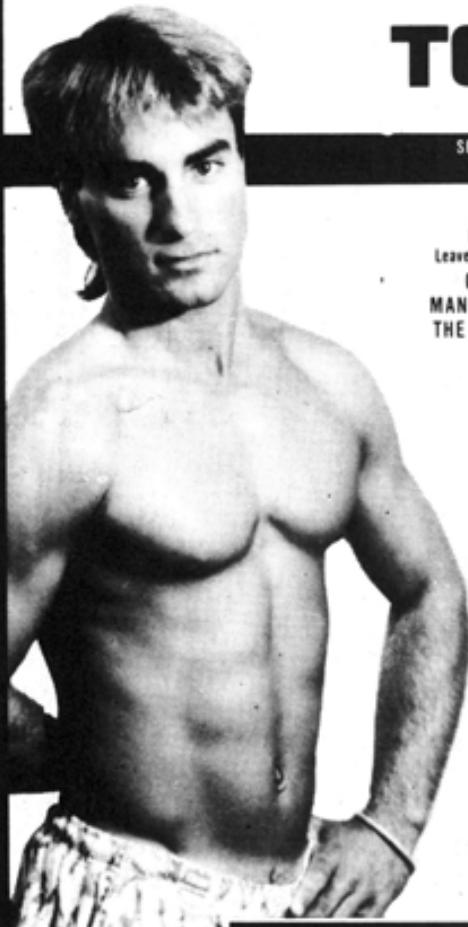
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999-6323

easy smile, willing to take chances but know when to say "O.K., but..." Outweek Box 2224

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GWM SUCCESS- FUL ART

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Highly creative, slightly eccentric, spending summer renovating old stone farm house in upstate NY. I like animals, flowers, walks in the woods. I am also very horny and would like to ravage the body of a young model type or dancer (18-28). I'll photograph you nude in my barn or under a nearby waterfall, and I'll lick your butt clean every night. I'm a good-looking and healthy (HIV-) 40 year old. Non-possessive and caring. If you're a good-looking young lad, send photo and letter to: Outweek Box 2166

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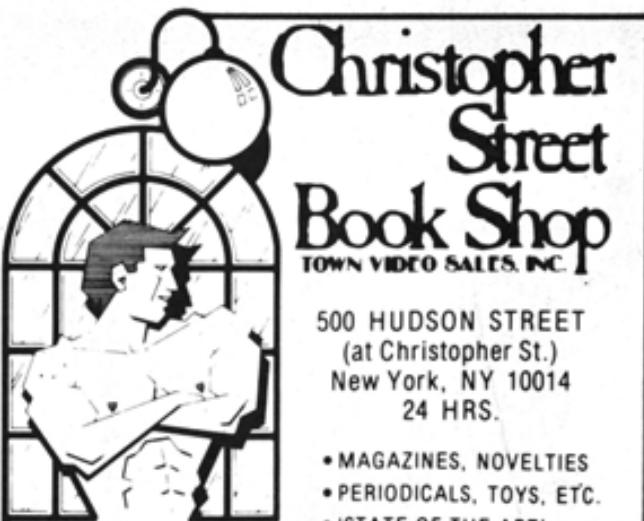
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rious replies only.
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WANTED: A MAN with all the gorgeous gay men in NYC, why am I sitting home on a Saturday night? GM, 29, 5'10", slim, boyish good looks, dark hair and eyes, business professional with a zest for life seeks GWM 25-40, witty, self-confident, masculine with strong

hands. OK-so I have a hand fetish! If you're looking for romance, companionship and want to share your life with someone who has a lot to offer. Please write with phone /photo to: Outweek Box 2199

FUN/SMART/SUPERHUNG friendly, prof'l WM, in shape, French pass., HIV neg, young 41, seeks at-

tractive, built men 30-45 for friendship, hot sex, and maybe much more. Our relationship will find its own level based on the chemistry between us. I'm 6'1", 160#, Grk-Ital and hot. Interests include music, plants, animals, tennis, current events, health medicine. Respond to POB 6221, NYC, 10150 w/photo showing your face,

ltr. and phone #. Photos w/SASE promptly returned. Let's go for it!

SNAKE NEEDS CHARMER

Amusing, confident, attractive, healthy HIV+ GWM, 33, 6'1", 150, BR?GR with hair on body and face seeks strong-minded, experienced and worldly GWM (27-47) for the 90's and be-

yond. You should be good-natured, open-minded and charming, with some interest, like myself, in travel and the country. Men too thin or too heavy could only become friends, not mates(sorry). Otherwise, aspires to kissing and cuddling at least. The better you know yourself, the better your chances with me. Photo/letter to Outweek Box 2201

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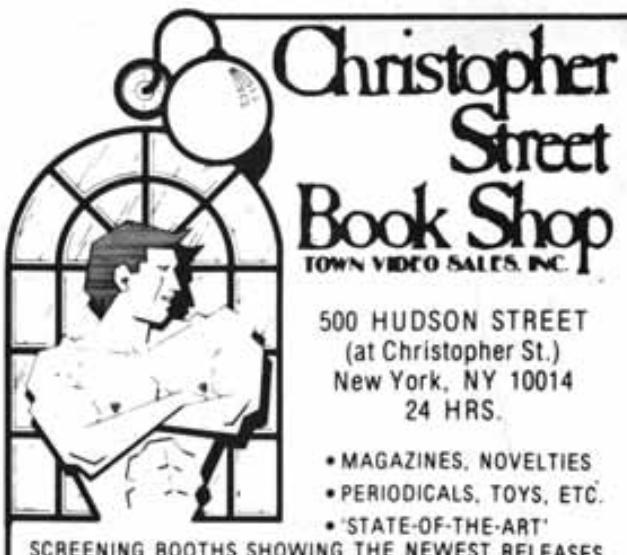
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20 YEARS!

fessional who looked for a true friend & lover. Let's work out and enjoy the greatest pleasure of our private kingdom. If you're my discreet Prince Charming into all aspects, send ph/ph so that we can live happily ever after. OutWeek Box 2169

READY FOR MR. RIGHT

Preppie ad exec., 32, 5'8", 150, cute, curly brown, baby blue, seeks bright, affectionate, thirtysomething GWM to share theatre, movies, dining out, cooking in, travel, country, beach, card shops, antiques, and my subscription to House Beautiful. Sense of humor essential. Let's start with a date and work towards making meatloaf, planting

PERSONALS OF THE WEEK

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Outweek Box 2202

BON APPETITE

My "first and only" barely scratched the surface. Delicious LBF, professional, full-figured, 26, ripe, for intelligent, single lesbian (any race) with good appetite for fun and piping hot sex. Outweek Box 2171

crysanthemums and picking up each other's shirts. Letter, phone. Outweek Box 2170

LIGHT BEAMS

GWM 39 seeks artistic spiritual travellers for fun, clarity, serenity and awareness. Explore paths of awakening in spirit of creation. Outweek Box 2172

BIBM CCNY STUDENT seeks Blk, PR or Dominican dudes

18-22 for some clean oversexed boy to boy fun. I'm a cute Caribbean guy, smooth honey-colored body and I can't get enough. I will make your fantasies cum to life. Write: Homeboy, POB 20983, Midtown Station 10129.

4 SKIN LOVER-QUEENS

GWM 6'2" 175 lbs. blond/blue yng 46 seeks uncut European or Latino guy. Must be masc be-

tween 18 and 40. I am cut but restoring my foreskin. Write P.O. Box 647, Maspeth NY 11378. (718) 424-1064. No JO calls.

GWM 47 5'11" 170LBS.

Healthy HIV+ handsome stache hairy natural body. I'm prof. finan. secure intelligent and affectionate, also sexy. Seek attractive, politically aware, mellow man 30+ for mature, supportive

relationship. Outweek Box 2175

I LIKE NY IN JUNE

How about you? Moonlight and motor trips etc. Hopeless romantic GWF, 27, who's shy and often silly is in search of warm, sensitive pillow talker who likes champagne at ball parks, mini-golf, Broadway, B-movies, kite flying, the Wonderful World of Disney and everything in between. I'm a casual open-minded thinker. Photo if possible. Write Outweek Box 2177

BATS AND BALLS

Pitcher seeks catcher with well-oiled glove. GWM, 33, blond, brd, looking for a man who can handle a slider. I promise you nine good innings before we hit the showers. Ltr/phone. Outweek Box 2133

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE!

Looking for something more than I could ever find at Charlie's. (No, Macy's circular is not

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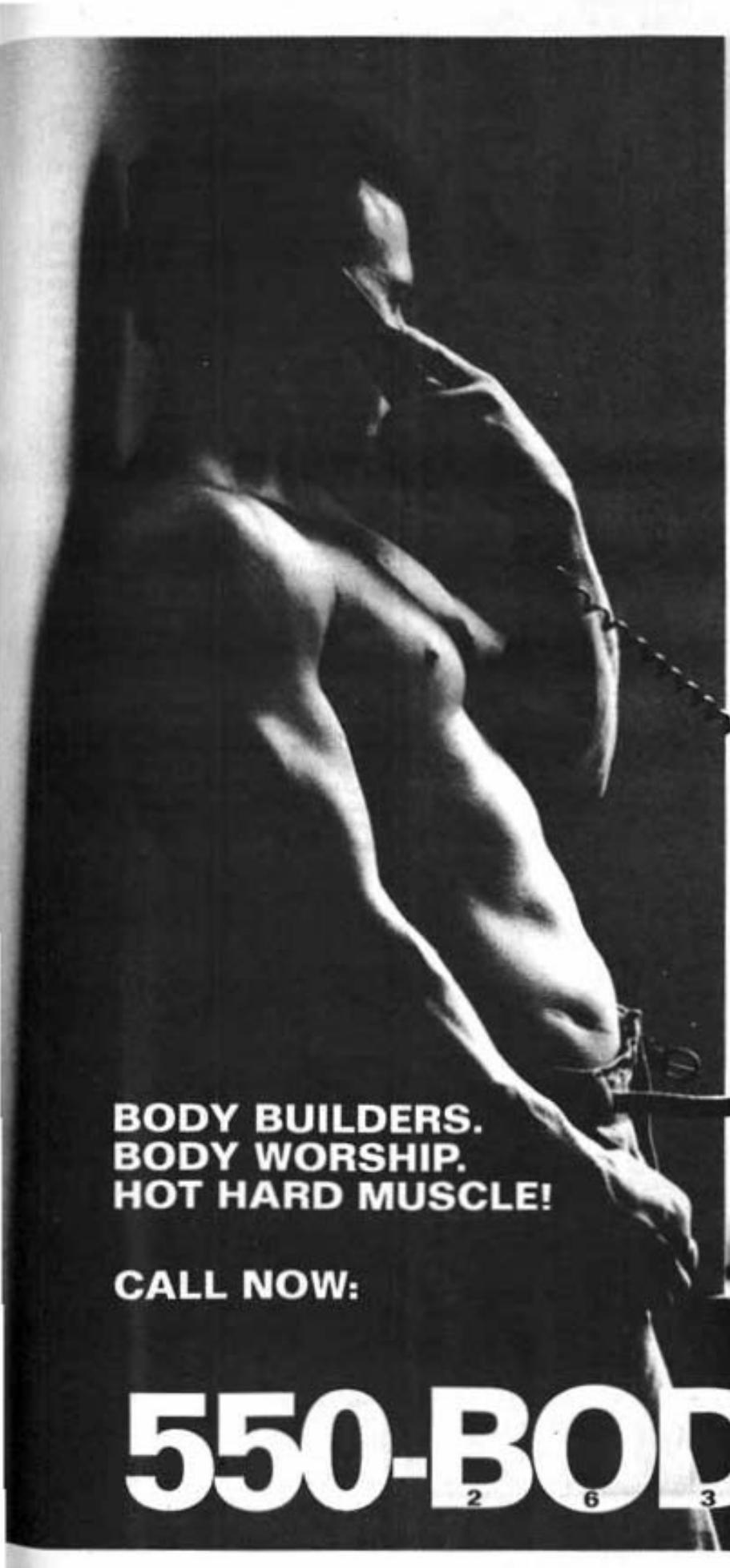


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ropean background. Romantic and kind person, Opera and classical music lover. Non-smoker dislikes heavy drinking. Looking for relationship with GM, 20's into 40's. Write in all confidence with photo if possible, to: P.O. Box 524, New York, NY 10017.

important-let's talk first! P.O. Box 20322, DHCC, NY, NY 10017.

GWM, 26, 5'8", 140, BIG seeks younger strt, bi, or gay male to entertain, spoil and help through school. I'm cute and fun to be with and I care about you. You don't need to write your life story or send a photo. Serious replies answered with photo. Serious replies answered with photo. Box 1365, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

NAIVE

CYNIC/ADULT KID GWM, 23, 6'2" with multi-faceted personality seeks fascinating GM, 20-30,

to enjoy all sides. Button-down professional by day, bon vivant by night; beach bum in summer, playgoer in winter. I seek a man to compliment my varied tastes with his own style. If you want a strong, steady relationship that won't grow old, send your ph/ph to Outweek Box 2105.

CZECH IT OUT

Looking for new friends to share good times. GWM, 42, 170, 5'9", stache, work-out body, balding, friendly, handsome, Czech-Amer, into massage, j/o, kissing, jockstraps, hot looks, duos or trios. Ph/ph if possible. Outweek Box 2009

ARE YOU LIKE ME?

You already have a "friend" but looking for a "buddy"-this is my first ad-I'm masculine-very affectionate and romantic-52 but friends say 42-6 ft-186-Mediterranean-hung-hairy chest-healthy-also interested in good talk-good food-and good music-send phone-photo less

BODYBUILDER GWM 37, 190#, brown hair and eyes, 5'11". I'm looking for a GM with muscles to spare. A take charge type of man, for dating, romance, safe sex, possible relationship. Reply with current photo, letter, tel.# to LTS 20053, NYC 10011-9993.

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Are you ready to be knocked out by love and passion? Romantic hdsm, down

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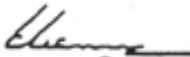


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Must be 18 years or older.
Jariel, Inc., 1989

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550•STUD
9 minutes \$1.00 Adults only.

to earth GWM prof, 29 w/dark hair and eyes, gym M body and good sense of humor sks similar man for fun and love. I like movies, dinners w/friends, dancing, etc. Skg warm person for hot times on cool nights. Shy on first date, fun on second. Let's get together! Outweek Box 2111

CREATIVE SEEKS CREATIVE

Enterprising graphic/fine artist. Attractive, in shape GWM 33 5'6" 130 finds creative talent a turn on. Attributes: sincerity, optimism and openness. Seeking attractive, imaginative artist/writer with off-beat sense of humor for a date! Not interested in drugs, fags, attitude. Outweek Box 2117

LIKE WHAT I LIKE- Dancing, films, media, politics, going out and we'll get along fine. Be community-minded, sensitive, interested, curious; I will reciprocate your energy. M 32 5'5" 120 br;br sks M who's not overly angry, just conscientious, and fun. Send reply to Box 20010, NYC 10009.

BLUE EYED TOP Clean cut boy-next-door type, 30's, nice guy seeks same for safe fun. If you're a cute hot bottom, please answer with photo. Outweek Box 2193

HELL OF A
NICE GUY
GWM, 25, 6'2", 205, blond, blue, masculine professional. Interested in movies, music, cooking and long walks. Bars are fine with friends, but I

don't expect to meet Mr. Right in one-someone caring, intelligent, sincere, easy-going, healthy, and fun to be with. Please write if you're of similar age, sick of one-night stands and playing the field and ready for a mature, satisfying, monogamous relationship. Outweek Box 2195

DADDY/SON 43 year old Dad needs son. You 18-26, race/color not important. Me attr 5'6" 150lbs. blond blue versatile kind. Photo and phone get mine. Respond to Box 255-250 Mercer Street, NYC, NY 10012.

VERY UNUSUAL SWM, 25, Br/gr, 5'11", 150 lbs. Handsome, healthy, HIV+, wealthy and wise with a big heart and a great sense of humor. Seeking a serious also handsome, healthy HIV+ or HIV-, wealthy and wise male to share a relationship based on honesty, understanding, and the drive to make our dreams to come true. Let's live up to life together. Send phone #, let's talk first. Serious replies only. Outweek Box 2198

WANTED: A MAN with all the gorgeous gay men in NYC, why am I sitting home on a Saturday night? GM, 29, 5'10", slim, boyish good looks, dark hair and eyes, business professional with a zest for life seeks GWM 25-40, witty, self-confident, masculine with strong hands. OK-so I have a hand fetish! If you're looking for

550 ORGY

6

7

4

9

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WITH UP TO EIGHT
OTHER MEN WHO ARE
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MEN YOU'VE BEEN
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THEY'RE JUST A
PHONE CALL AWAY!**

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.95 PER MINUTE

CALLERS MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER



romance, companionship and want to share your life with someone who has a lot to offer. Please write with phone/photo to: Outweek Box 2199

FUN/SMART/ SUPERHUNG

friendly, prof'l WM, in shape, French pass., HIV neg, young 41, seeks attractive, built men 30-45 for friendship, hot sex, and maybe much more. Our relationship will find its own level based on the chemistry between us. I'm 6'1", 160#, Grk-Ital and hot. Interests include music, plants, animals, tennis, current events, health medicine. Respond to POB 6221, NYC, 10150 w/photo showing your face, ltr. and phone #. Photos w/SASE promptly returned. (Bl-boy+girl o.k.) No drugs. Outweek Box 2223

SPIT

for your boots. The Navy Way. Outweek Box 2202

STEAM HEAT

Searching for hdsm couple 20-40 for ss/romance and comradery. Me: Hdsm loverboy GM 29 5'11" 155 who digs video, art, dinners and more. Must send photos and steamy letter. (Bl-boy+girl o.k.) No drugs. Outweek Box 2223

HOT FOR BOXING?

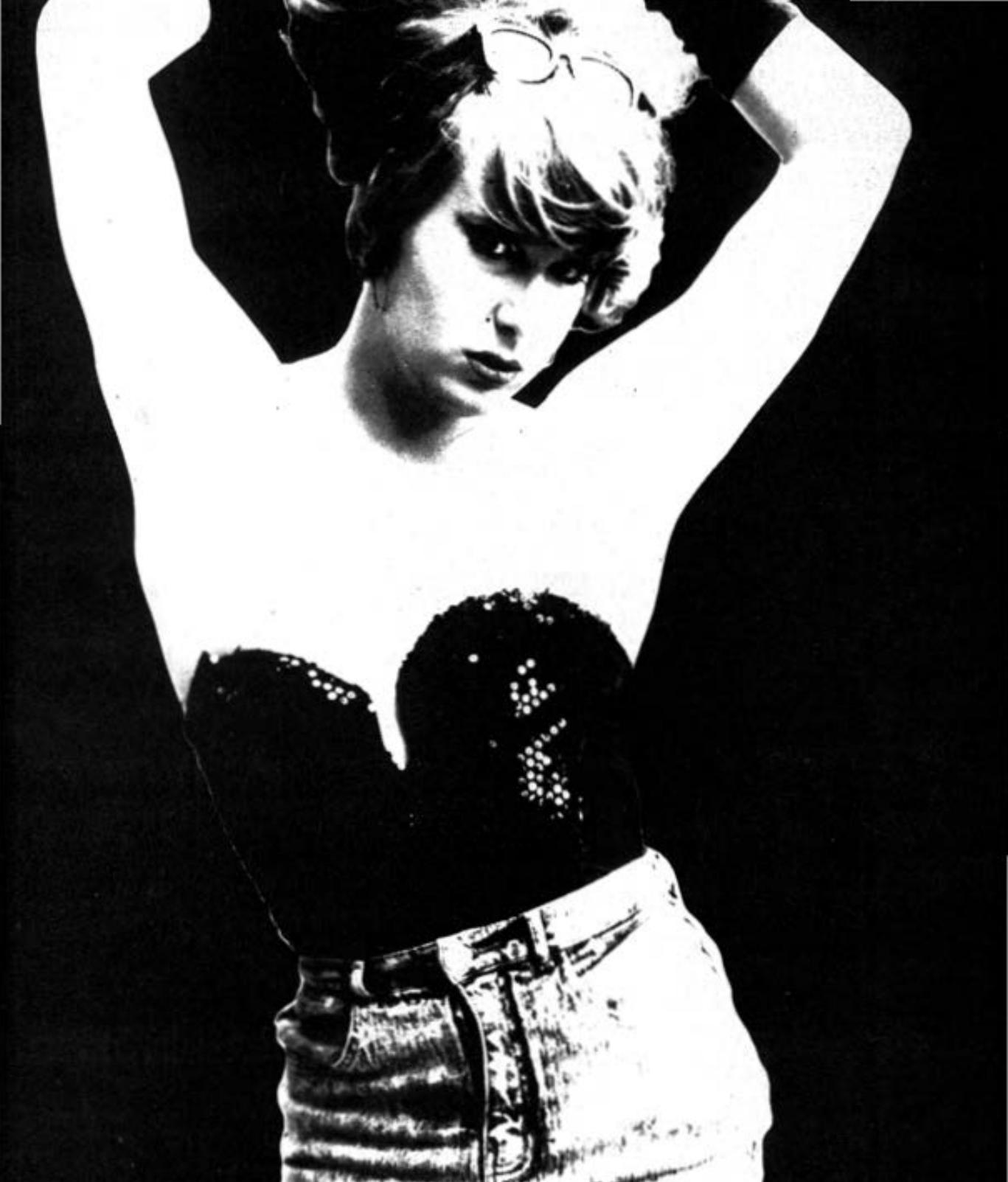
If boxing turns you on, let's put on the gloves & see what happens. Sweat jock & athletic sox and hot sex at the end of a bout. Interested? I'm 5'10" 165 bearded hairy chest. You're 20-40, fairly good shape and turned on by fists hitting hot male flesh. I provide gloves-you provide place or we split room. Send fantasy and pic. Get em' up dude. Make my day. Box 124-151 First Avenue, NYC, NY 10003.

PHONE SEX IS SAFEST

Hot GWM, attr, well-bl, hung, seeks verbal men, esp tops over 30. Tall, husky, hairy chest, grey, musc., Ital. are turn-ons. Use and abuse me. Send tel, fantasies (foto a+) to POB 2520, Times Square Sta. NYC 10108.

CLYDE'S

Friday, Feb. 16, 9 pm. Attractive blond



CHICKS WITH DICKS
550·9999

(212, 718, 516, 914)

CLASSIFIED / PERSONAL ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

All OutWeek Classified Advertising is prepaid.

The Deadline is NOON MONDAY, one week before on-sale date.

OutWeek reserves the right to edit, reject or rewrite any advertisement.

In case of error on our part, no refunds -- additional insertions only.

\$15.00 fee for copy changes or cancellations.

Mail sent to OutWeek Box #'s is forwarded weekly, on Mondays.

OutWeek boxes are NOT to be used for the distribution of bulk mail or advertising circulars.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, NO STREET ADDRESSES ARE PERMITTED IN THE PERSONALS SECTION.

OUTWEEK BOX #'S OR P.O. BOXES ONLY.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Start Issue: _____

Paid _____ Keyed _____ Proofed _____

Return this entire page,
with appropriate payment, to:
OutWeek Classifieds
159 W. 25th Street, 7th Floor
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CLASSIFIED RATES:

\$3 per line (seven line minimum). Please conform your ad copy to the grid.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS:

4x 10%
13x 15%
26x 20%

PERSONALS RATES:

\$1 per line (seven line minimum). Please conform your ad copy to the grid.

DISPLAY CLASSIFIED RATES:

\$25 / column inch. Please inquire for frequency discounts. Column width: 1 7/8"

PERSONALS

____ lines @ \$1.00 (seven line minimum)= _____

times ____ weeks ad is to run: _____

Give me an OutWeek Box # and forward my mail each week for ____ months @ \$20 per month = _____

Telephone verification charge:
(if your phone # appears in ad) @ \$10.00 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

CLASSIFIED / PERSONAL ORDER FORM

One letter, space, or punctuation mark per box.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
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15

CLASSIFIEDS

Category: _____

____ lines @ \$3.00 (seven line minimum)= _____

times ____ weeks ad is to run: _____

if ad is to run four or more times,
deduct appropriate frequency discount: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

Charge my Visa / Mastercard. Acct. #: _____ Exp. _____

Signature: _____

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(212, 718, 516, 914)
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In HardCore Ultimate
HARDCORE

WHERE THE TOP MEN
WHERE THE TOP MEN ARE
15¢ per minute, /40¢
1st MINUTE 40¢ /15¢
100% GAY OWNED/OP.
GAY OWNED/OPERATED
CALL . CALL

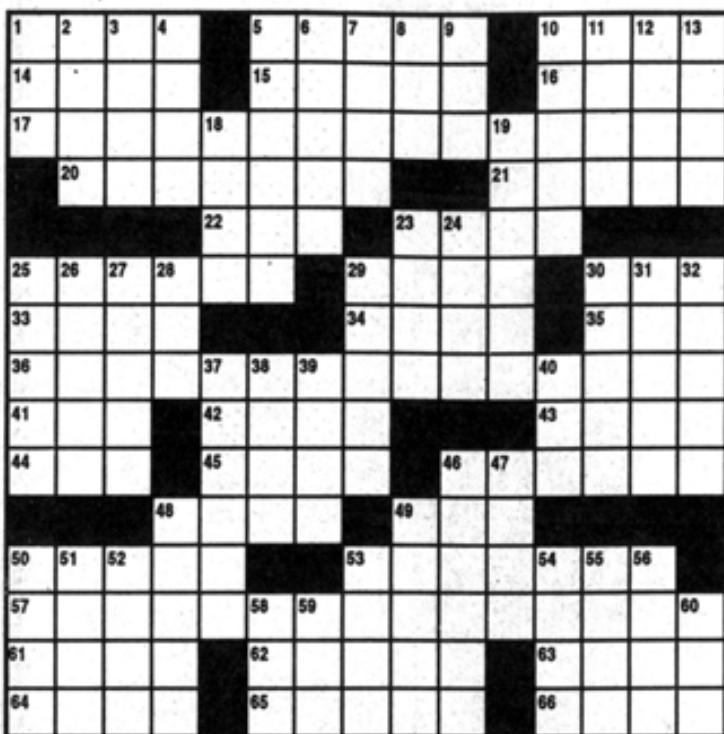
550
HARD



OutWeek Crossword

by Greg Baysans

Edited by Gabriel Rotello



SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE MONDAY

ACROSS

- Seaweed
- Auto____, highways in Germany
- Neck part
- Brainchild
- Join
- Composer Brian and others
- With 36 across, Rita Mae Brown poem, subtitled "Or: The Song My Movement Sisters Won't Let Me Sing"
- "____ Rag," Gerry Rafferty song
- Livid
- Sun
- "____, The Killer Whale," 1966 movie
- Helms-like
- The____, British trend rag
- Stopper
- Actor Guiness
- Skip
- Hubbub
- See 17 across
- "____ Got a Secret"
- ____-do-well
- Greeting for Gonzales
- Opposite of 42 across
- Expression of woe

46. Sandwich filler

- Part of USA
- Posed
- ____ macabre
- Things which speak louder than words
- "____ of a woman," first line of the poem
- Bamako is its capitol
- Like some hose
- New Mexico resort
- Organ control
- Writer George and others
- "...hand together ____ will all hang apart."

DOWN

- Jest
- Import cheese
- Singer Horne
- Accord
- Caruncle
- "Who killed the porkchops? What price bananas? Are you my ____" Ginsberg, "A Supermarket in California"
- Smashes

8. To the ____ degree

9. Use one sense

10. Jacket type

11. Celebes ox

12. Sulk

13. Being, Sp.

18. "____ girl

19. Italian river

23. Finger

24. "Can I bum ____?"

25. Composer Eric

26. "____ a Parade"

27. Cadence

28. Fish disease

29. Quartets

30. Castrated rooster

31. An Astaire

32. Arctic

37. Coating

38. Before gram or graph

39. Hinter

40. "____ has taken a woman lover," Grahn, "Carol, in the park, chewing on straws"

46. Director John

47. "____ a beauteous evening, calm and free," Wordsworth

48. Make ____ of the tongue

49. Vac. itinerary

50. Waner

51. Tallow, for one

52. ____ contendre

53. Sun disk

54. Eight, pref.

55. At hand

56. Precipitate coldly

58. CIA predecessor

59. "O, Thous, ____ in the heavens dost dwell," Burns

60. "Animula" auth.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



DIAL NOW GUYS ARE WAITING!



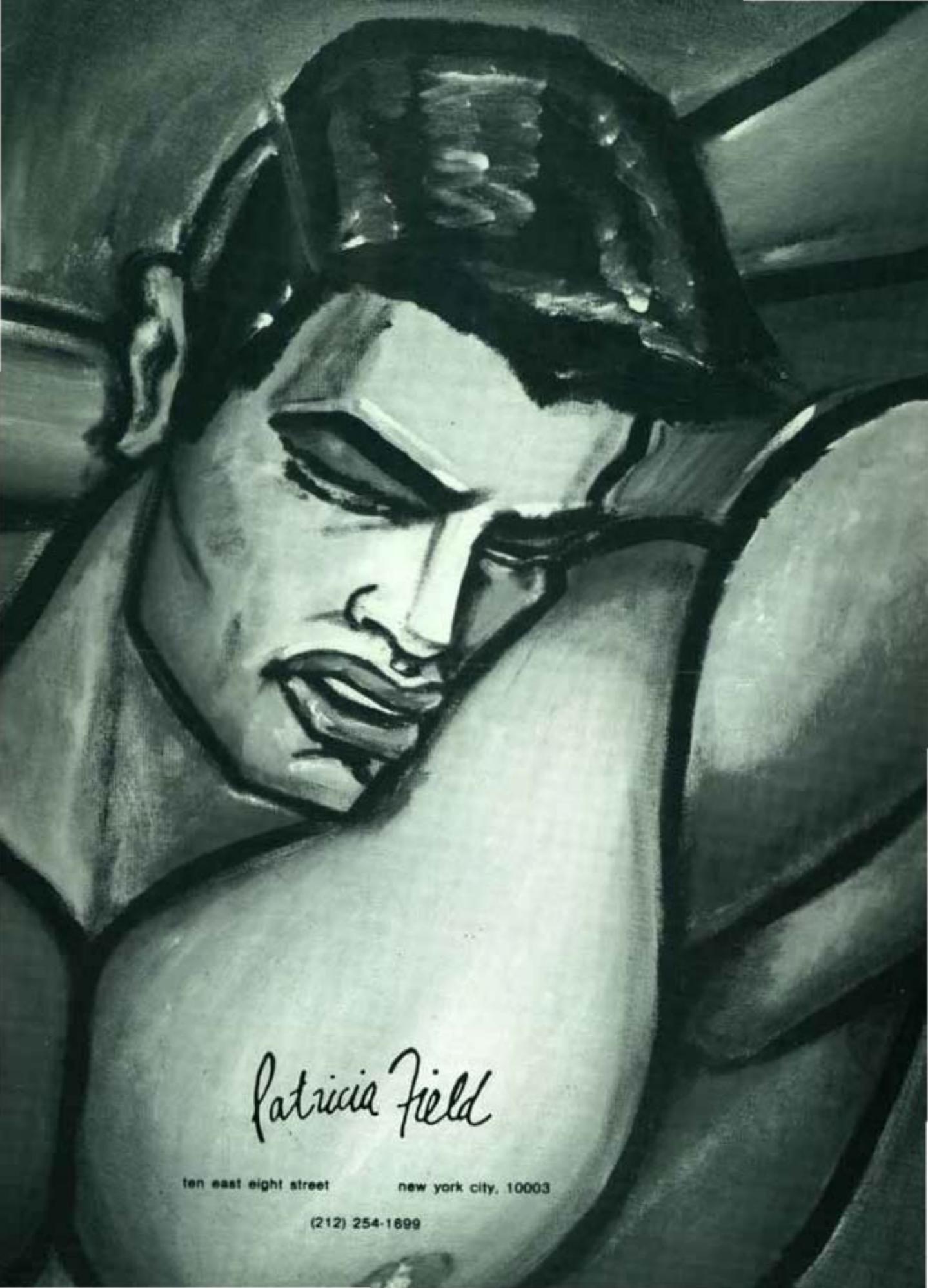
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